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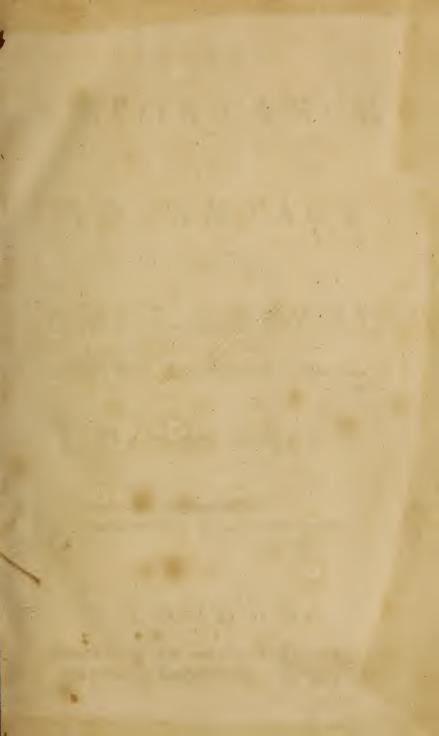
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1705/ 1705/

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IMPORTANCE

AND

ADVANTAGE

OF

CAPE BRETON,

Truly Stated, and Impartially Confidered.

With Proper MAPS.

——Si quid novisti rettius istis
Candidus imperti: Si nop, bis utere mecum.

Hor. Ep. VI. Lib. I.

LONDON:

Printed for John and PAUL KNAPTON, at the Crown in Ludgate-Street. MDCC XLVI.

IMPORTAMCE

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ADVANTAGE

GATE BRETON.

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PREFACE.

THE proper handling of the following Subject is a Task of much greater Difficulty than I at first imagined.

I AM fensible of many Defects in these Sheets; but, as I mean nothing more than to open the Eyes of the Publick on so important an Occasion, so I have only furnished the several Hints that occur'd to me; and leave the World to improve upon them at their Leisure, and according to their different Capacities.

THE Chief of my Care was, that Nothing had a Place herein, but incontestable Facts; which, the more they are A 2 enquired enquired into, the clearer and brighter they will appear.

In describing of Cape Breton, I chose to use the very Words of Pere Charlevoix, and his Auborities, least it might be objected that I had represented Places and Things more favourably than they are in Reality. The General Reputation of that Author, for Exactness and Veracity, adds no small Weight to that Part of this Discourse; at the same time that it indemnifies me of all Mistakes or Falsehoods advanced by him. I have only extracted such Parts of his History as were most necessary to my Purpose; and even omitted many, which might have enlarged and embellished this Performance, merely for the fake of bringing the Whole into as narrow a Compass as might be.

I THOUGHT it, however, necessary and proper to introduce the Main Point, by some Observations, leading more easily and naturally to it. For this Reason it is, that I have begun by shewing, in general, the Title which the European Nations have to their Possessions in America: And, as that Affair turns, or depends chiefly upon the

the Treaty of Utrecht, I found it necessary to make an Extract of such Articles as relate to the Purpose; and to remark upon the said Articles.

THE Maps are taken from Bellin, Engineer to the Marine of France; though they differ greatly from all others that have been hitherto laid down. But, as his Obfervations are altogether taken from Charlevoix, so, wherever there is any material Difference between his Maps and our own, it arises probably from an Intention in the Jesuit, to ascertain the Rights and Limits of the French Nation, whenever those Affairs shall bereaster be debated, in Order to a Settlement of them.

It will at first Sight appear, that the Stile is neither laboured nor studied; I am rather appprehensive it may not, in many Places, be correct: But the Validity of the Facts is what I chiefly insist upon, and have endeavoured more at being clear and intelligible, than florid and diffuse, in the Representation of them.

I AM not half so ambitious of becoming an Author, as desirous, upon all Occasions, of bearing Testimony to the Truth, and being of some Use to my Country, and Friends: Yet I statter myself, that the Publick will not be displeased to find some Things berein collected, which have not hitherto been generally known, or attended to.

IF our Share of the World reaps any Benefit from this Essay, all the Ends proposed in it by me, are fully answered; and the Faults which are found in it, may probably be the Occasion of its being handled in a better and more correct Manner by some abler Pen. This would be so far from giving me the least Uneasiness, that I should truly rejoice in my having been the happy Instrument of so much Good to a Nation, whose real Interests I have at Heart, as much as any other Person, of my Rank and Station, in it.

THE

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THE

Importance and Advantage

OF

CAPE BRETON, &c.

CHAP. I.

An Enquiry into the Title by Conquest, of the European Nations, to their Possessions or Territories in America.

N treating of the Importance and Ad- C H A P. vantages of CAPEBRETON to the Crown of England, I thought it might not be disagreeable to the Reader, first to enquire into the several Titles by Conquest, which each European Nation has to the Territories it possesses in America: And by searching

B

CHAP. into the Titles of that Nature, it appears, I. that very few of them deserve the Name of Conquests. Most of them are founded The Manner upon bare Discoveries, and landing upon in which most an unknown Coast, which was either quite of the Conuninhabited, or peopled with Savages, who quests in Americawere upon the first Appearance of large Ships, made. and of Men of a different Complexion, in another kind of Dress, and armed in an unufual manner, generally fled from the Shores, retired into the Mountains, and endeavoured to fecure their Persons. foon as their Backs were turned, the Enterprizer immediately landed at this or that Cape, or in one or another Bay, Creek or

> a Right to fuch or fuch a Part of those Territories. But in many Cases, nothing more was done; and feveral Years, perhaps, passed without following the first Difcovery, or making any Settlement upon it. Nay, it frequently happened, that

> River; there fet up the Arms of his Country, or a Pillar with an Inscription; or fometimes both: And thence he claimed

> after a Settlement had been made, it came to be deserted; either because the Place first fix'd upon, was not proper for

> it; or because some other European Nation

tion drove the first out of it; or lastly, CHAP. because the Savages would no longer bear the Encroachments of fuch troublesome, and generally cruel, Interlopers; but taking Courage, and entering into Alliances amongst themselves, they came down in Numbers, and frequently made dreadful Havock amongst the New-comers; thereby regaining all that these Conquerors had, at great Expence of Men and Money, got Possession of. But to put this Matter in as clear a Light as may be, I shall here add a short Chronological Account of all the material Discoveries or Conquests (which are to our Purpose) made of America by the different Nations now claiming a Right there. This Account is taken chiefly from a Book printed at Paris in the Year 1744, by Pere Charlevoix, a Jesuit, who was a Miffionary in New France, the Louisiane, and along the Banks of the Missippi River.

1492.

CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS, a Genoese, America disdiscovered the first Land in America, and covered by took Possession of it in the Name of the Columbus. Crown of Castile. This Discovery con-B 2 fisted

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Снар. fifted chiefly in the Islands San Salvador, I. Cuba, and St. Domingo.

1496.

Newfoundland, by Cabot, or Gabato.

America. They accordingly discovered
Newfoundland; a Part of the Continent
of Labrador, or Laborador, as far as to
55 Degrees of Northern Latitude; and
brought four Savages with them to England.

1501.

Gulph of Honduras and Porto Bello.

COLUMBUS discovered the Cape and Bay, or Gulph of *Honduras*, and the Harbour of *Porto-Bello*.

1509.

Jamaica, by JOHN DE ESQUIBEL made a Settle-Esquibel. ment on the Island of Jamaica, by the Orders of Don Diego Columbus (Son and Heir of Christopher Columbus) at that Time Admiral of the Indies. 1511.

Снар. I.

DIEGO VELASQUEZ took Possession of Cuba, by Vethe Island of Cuba in the Name of the lasquez. above-mentioned Admiral.

1523.

JOHN VERAZANI, a Florentine, in the Florida, by Service of Francis I. King of France, Verazani. made a Voyage to North America; and the following Year discovered Florida.

1527.

JOHN BERMUDEZ, a Spaniard, discover-Bermudas, by ed an Island, to which he gave his Name, Bermudez. and which is now known by the Name of Bermudas.

1535.

JOHN CARTIER of St. Malo, entered Gulph of St. a great Gulph or Bay, which he named Laurence, by St. Laurence, it being the Saint's Day of Cartier.

St. Laurence, it being the Saint's Day of that Name. He failed 180 Leagues up the River St. Laurence, to a Village of Savages, at the Foot of a Mountain, which he called Mont-Royal; and the whole Island is, at this Day, called Montreal.

Снар.

1556.

Streights of Stephen Barroug, an Englishman, Weigatz, by in feeking a Passage by the North to China, Barroug. discovered the Streights of Weigatz, which lye between Nova Zembla, and the Country of the Samoides.

1576.

Forbisher's SIR Martin Forbisher discovered the Streights, by Streights which lye between Greenland, and a large Island to the South of it. They are called Forbisher's Streights.

1578.

West-Frieze- THE same Person discovered the Land land by the of West-Friezeland, and took Possession of same. it in the Name of Elizabeth, Queen of England.

1579.

New Albion, FRANCIS DRAKE, an Englishman, difby Drake. covered, to the North of California, a Land, to which he gave the Name of New Albion.

1583.

Newfound- SIR Gilbert Humphrey went, at the land, by Instigation of Secretary Walfingham to Humphrey.

New-

Newfoundland, and took Possession of it, Chap. in the Name of Queen Elizabeth. He established there a Cod-Fishery. It is probable that he also discovered Part of Acadia; having, as it is said, lost three of his Ships on the Island of Sable.

1584, 1585.

ARTHUR BARLOW was fent by Sir Virginia, by Walter Raleigh to make Discoveries; and Barlow. landed at the Island Roënoko. At his Return he gave so favourable an Account of that Country, that Queen Elizabeth named it Virginia, in Honour of her Virginity.

1587.

JOHN DAVIS, or Davids, discovered Davis's the Streights known at this Day, by his Streights, by Name. They lye between Greenland and Cumberland Island, and are called Davis's Streights.

1693.

SIR Richard Hawkins sailed round the Discoveries, World, and discovered, to the South-west by Hawkins. of the Streights of Magellan, a large Tract of Land, which extended on one Side beyond the Streights de la Maire;

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CHAP. and on the other, as far as over-against I. the Cape of Good Hope.

1598.

Isle of Sable and Acadia, by la Roche.

THE Marquis de la Roche procured a Patent from Henry IV. of France, for continuing the Discoveries formerly made by fames Cartier; and discovered the Isle of Sable, and Part of the Coasts of Acadia, now Nova Scotia.

1604.

Canada, by feveral.

PETER DE GUAST, Monsieur des Monts, and Samuel de Champlain, Frenchmen, compleated the Discovery of Acadia, and Part of the South Coast of Canada.

1607.

Chefapeak-Bay, by Smith. JOHN SMITH discovered Chesapeak Bay, and the Pouvatan River which falls into it. He built upon the River a Fort, which is become a City, and the Capital of Virginia, by the Name of James-town, in Honour of James I. King of England.

1609.

New York, by Hudson. HENRY HUDSON, after failing along the Coasts of Virginia and New England, discovered, in about 40 Degrees of North Latitude,

Latitude, a great Bay, into which a large C H A P. River empties itself, which he called Man-batte, from the Name of the Savages he found there. This Captain was at that Time in the Service of the Dutch, who were for some Time in Possession of that Country: For by them was built the Town of Manhatte, and the Fort of Orange on the same River. This Country now bears the Name of New York.

THE same Hudson, and William Baffins, Hudson's pushed very far towards the North-West; Bay, by where they discovered, the following Year, those Countries yet known by their Names; Baffins's Bay, as Hudson's Bay, and Baffins's Bay.

1611.

THOMAS BUTTON discovered to the New Wales North of Canada a large Country, which and Button's Bay, by Buthe called New Wales. He afterwards fail-ton. ed all over the Bay, which bears his Name.

1612.

JAMES HALL discovered the Streights Cockin's of Cockin to the North of Canada, and in Streights, by Hall.

65 Degrees of North Latitude.

C

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CHAP.

I. New South-Wales, &c. by James. 1631.

CAPTAIN James discovered several Lands to the North of Hudson's Bay. He called all the Lands at the Entrance of the Bay by the Name of New South Wales. He touched afterwards at Cape Henrietta Maria, Lord Weston's Island, Earl of Bristol's Island, Sir Thomas Roe's Island, Earl of Danby's Island, and the Charleton Island; which last, is in 52 Degrees, North Latitude.

1633.

Maryland.

CECIL CALVERT, Lord Baltimore, having obtained from King Charles I. of England, the Property of a large Extent of Country, lying to the North of Chefapeak-Bay, between Virginia and Carolina, fent thither his Son, who this Year began a Settlement there; which, in Honour of Mary of France, Queen of England, was called Maryland.

1656.

Hudson's Bay, by Bourdon. Bourdon, an Inhabitant of New France (being fent by the Governor of the North) entered Hudson's Bay, and took Possession of it, in the Name of the King of France.

1660.

CHAP.

CHARLES II. King of England, grant-Carolina. ed to George Monk, Duke of Albemarle, and to five other English Lords, that Part of Florida which extends from Virginia, to that which is now called New Georgia. They divided amongst them all that Country, and called it Carolina.

1667.

ZACHARIAH GHILLAM, an English-Rupert's man, having gone through Baffins's Bay to River, by Gbillam. the height of 75 Degrees, came back again, and failed to the Bottom of Hudfon's Bay, entered a River, which comes from Canada, and discharges its self into the Bay: He called it Rupert's River. A few Years before, some English had gone up this River, as far as the Lake Nemiscau.

1671.

CHARLES ALBANEL, a French Jesuit, Hudson's and Monsieur Denis de St. Simon, a Gen-Bay, by Altleman of Canada, were sent by the Governor-General of New France to penetrate into Hudson's Bay by a Way which had not yet been discovered: And they

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C H A P. took Possession of it, in the Name of the I. French King.

1680.

Barbadoes, by Sharp. CAPTAIN Sharp, after failing a great while in these Seas, discovered an Island, to which he gave the Name of Barbadoes.

1681.

Pensilvania. The foregoing Year Charles II. King of England, granted a Tract of Country to Sir William Penn; who, in this Year, carried a Number of Quakers thither, and made a Settlement; which was called Pensilvania, in Honour of its Founder.

1732.

NewGeorgia. General Oglethorp made a Settlement in the Name of his present Majesty George II. King of England, between Carolina and Spanish Florida. This New Colony is bounded on the North, by the Savanah River, and on the South, by the River called Alatamaha. It's length, along the Coast, is not esteemed more than 60 or 70 English Miles; but it grows larger, as it extends itself from the Sea. It is now called New Georgia.

To the above Chronological Account, I shall add the Copy of a Memorial presented by *Jeremiah Dummer*, Esq; to the Ministry of England in 1709. as the same has fallen into my Hands, without vouching for any of its Articles; viz.

CHAP.
I.

A Memorial, shewing that the French Posfessions on the River of Canada, do originally and of Right belong to the Crown of Great Britain; and for other Important Reasons ought to be restored to the Crown, on a Treaty of Peace.

THE whole Tract of Land (fituate on Mr. Dumthe nether Side of the River of Canada) mer's Mecalled Nova Scotia and Acadia, was first 1709. discovered by Cabot and his Sons, in the Reign of Henry VII. King of England. Which Discovery was prior to that of Verazani, a Florentine, under Francis I. King of France; and accordingly was under the Power and Jurisdiction of the Crown of England, till the Year 1600. When some of the French, invited by the Traffick on the River of St. Laurence, seized first on the

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CHAP. the North-side of the River, called Canada*,

I. or Nova Scotia; and afterwards, in 1606.

did possess themselves of the South-side, called Acadia.

In the Year 1621. King James looking, upon their Possessions as an Invasion of his

* The French Maps, lately published by the Sieur Bellin, Engineer and Geographer of the Marine to the King of France, made Canada to commence from near the Source of the Missifippi River; and extends it's felf to that Part of the River of St. Laurence, which is at the Back of New Scotland; placing New France to the Northward of Canada. Those of Herman Moll make Canada to begin at the great Fall of St. Maria, out of the Upper Lake, into the Lake Huron; and terminate at the River of St. Laurence, as far above Quebec, as Trois Rivieres: And place New France as far to the Southward of Canada, as Bellin does to the Northward of it.

THE French Maps likewise call that Isthmus, or Peninsula, whereon stands Annapolis-Royal, by the Name of Acadie: Whereas Moll, and other Geographers, give that Name to the Land which

lyes North of Fundy Bay.

FROM these two so widely differing Accounts of the Matter, it is hard to settle the just Limits either of our Pretensions or Possessions. It may probably suit the Purposes of France, to make the Difference wider than it really is, that they may make the better Terms, when a Peace shall be brought upon the Tapis.

Territories, did by Letters Patent grant C H A P. unto Sir William Alexander (afterwards I. Earl of Sterling) L'Acadie, by the Name of Nova Scotia: Who in 1622. and 1623. fubdued the French Inhabitants, carried them Prisoners to Virginia, planted a Colony there himself, and held Possession of it for two Years; when, upon the Marriage of King Charles I. with the Lady Henrietta Maria, the said Nova Scotia was, by order of the King, returned into the Hands of the French.

AFTERWARDS, a War arising between the Kings of England and France, * Sir David Kirk, with his Friends did in 1627. and 1628. (by virtue of a Commission obtained from his Majesty) send to Sea at their own Charge, nine Ships sitted with warlike Stores, to expel the French from both Sides of the River Canada +. In which Enter-

+ By the River of Canada, he must mean the

River St. Laurence.

^{*} CHARLEVOIX calls him David Kertk; fays he was a Native and Refugee of Dieppe, but a Calvinift. And in another Place he fays, that Kertk was put upon this Expedition by one James Michel, a furious Calvinift, who gave him Intelligence of the Weakness of the Garrison of Quebec.

CHAP. prize, they had fuch Success, that (after bringing off the French Inhabitants and Traders into England) they took Possession of all Nova Scotia, Canada, and l'Acadie:

The former of which fell to Sir David Kirk, who was Governor of Quebec, and set up the King of England's Arms in all Places of publick Resort in the City. The latter fell to Sir William Alexander.

IN 1632. a Peace being concluded between the two Crowns, it was agreed that the Forts on the faid French Settlements, should be delivered to the Subjects of France: The French King on his Part stipulating to pay in Lieu thereof to Sir David Kirk * Five Thousand Pounds, Sterling; which Sum does nevertheless remain unpaid to this Day,

^{*} The Treaty here referred to, is that made between Charles I. King of England, and Lewis XIII. King of France, March 29, 1632. I have examined it, and find that all the Places possessed by the British Subjects in New France, Acadia, and Canada, together with Port-Royal, Quebec, and Cape Breton, were to be restored to the French King. But I no where find in the Treaty, any mention of the French King's stipulating to pay a Sum to Sir David Kirk, by way of Indemnishication.

although the Forts were delivered up accord- C H A P, ing to Agreement.

I.

In 1633. King Charles, confidering he had only surrendered the Forts, but had not debarred his Subjects from planting and trading there, did grant a Commission to Sir Lewis Kirk, and Company, to trade and settle there; which accordingly they did attempt, but were plundered and made Prisoners by the French.

In 1654. Cromwell weighing the Premisses, and in Consideration that the Articles were not performed on the French King's Part, sent one Ledgewick, who assaulted and subdued the French on that Settlement, and restored the Country into the Hands of the English*. And although a Peace was

" Hamburgh,"

^{*} In the Treaty concluded at Westminster, November 3, 1655. between Lewis XIV. King of France, and Oliver Cromwell, Lord Protector, Article XXV. are the following Words, viz. "And whereas three Forts, viz. Pentacoet, St.

[&]quot; John, and Port-Royal, lately taken in America, would be reclaimed by the above-mentioned

Lord, Ambassador of his said Majesty; and the

[&]quot;Lords Commissioners of his Highness would ar-

[&]quot; gue from certain Reasons, that they ought to be

[&]quot; detained; it is agreed, that such Controversy be

[&]quot; referred to the Arbitration of the Republick of

CHAP. Settled between the two Nations in 1655.

I. and the French Ambassadors made pressing Instances for the Restitution of that Country, yet it was not delivered up, but remained under the Jurisdiction of England. Yet after the Restauration (it is not easy to say how, or upon what Account) the French were permitted to re-enter, and do yet hold

the unjust Possession of it.

FROM the Premisses it is manifest that the French Territories on that Part of the Continent of America, do originally and of Right belong to the Crown of Great Britain; which is however, submitted to better Judgements.

In the mean time, it is humbly remonftrated, that the French by their unwearied Industry, and many artful Methods, gain ground continually, by making new Alliances with the Indian Nations on the back of New England, New York, and Virginia; so that, in a little time, they will grow formidable to the English Settlements.

THAT by the intermarrying with the Natives, they have always a great Number of Jesuits

Jefuits and Priests with them; and by in- Char.

Structing them that the Saviour of the I.

World was a Frenchman, and murdered by the English, they are excited to commit all manner of Cruelties upon the English, as meritorious: And particularly, about two Months since, the French and Savages made a Descent upon a considerable Town of the Province of the Massachusets, and there barbarously killed an Officer of the Militia, and a Minister of the Town, with many others of less Note; notwithstanding the Precautions which his Excellency Colonel Dudley took to prevent it.

THAT by means hereof, the best Part of New England (the Eastern Country) is entirely abandoned, and left desolate.

THAT the Mast Trade is endangered; many Persons having been surprized and murdered whilst cutting Masts for the supply of the Crown. The whole Trade of New England, out and home, is very much awed and damp'd, especially by l'Acadie; the Capital of that Place (Port Royal) being a Nest of Privateers, and a Dunkirk to New England.

D 2

LASTLY;

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C H A P.
I.

LASTLY; That this Country is very proper and apt to yield all Naval Stores; and has the best of Fishing in the World, on it's Coasts; so that, the French King may resign up all Newfoundland, and we not obtain our End, whilf l'Acadie is left their's, which will supply France and the Streights with Fish notwithstanding.

UPON the whole, it is humbly moved that this Country may be demanded at the next Treaty of Peace; at leaft, the South side of the River: Which, being New Scotland, and adjoining to New England, may be united to it by the Name of New Britain, after the great Example of England and Scotland; that so the Union may in all its Parts be compleat and entire, in her prefent Majesty's most happy and glorious Reign.

(Signed) JEREMIAH DUMMER.

FROM hence let every Reader judge and determine for himself, to whom of Right the Possessions in America originally belong. The Spaniards, it must be confessed,

confessed, made the Conquest of Mexico CHAP. and Peru; and were guilty of fuch Exceffes of Cruelty and Barbarity, as out-did any thing ever heard of, or met with, even amongst the Savages they conquered. But, Profit and Ambition apart, what Right had any European Nation to disturb that People in the quiet and peaceable Possession of their Country; which, in all probability, they were the Rightful Owners of, long before any of these mighty Conquerors had a Name? Had those Nations been in a Situation, by their Numbers or their Strength, to have poured in upon any of the Europeans: And particularly, had they treated us when they had us in their Power, with the fame Inhumanity wherewith we treated them; how should we have branded fuch an Undertaking with all the harsh Terms of Injustice, Cruelty, and Tyranny? We should naturally have thought that the Hand of Heaven was heavy upon us; and that nothing less than enormous Crimes could have deserved such Punishments. should certainly have endeavoured, as soon as possible, to have freed ourselves from a Band of Thieves, who had thus come from

CHAP. from afar to disturb our Quiet. We should have justified any the most artful and wicked Schemes, which could have brought this about; and have thought that we had the most undoubted Right to recover, by any means, that Liberty, and those Properties, which we had lost by the unjust Incursions of these Foreigners: And, if ever we had the good Fortune to over-power them, New Cruelties would have been invented to torture as many as remained in our Hands; partly, to fatiate the Revenge of fuch as had fuffered by them; and partly, to deter others from making a fecond Attempt of the like Nature. Let the most civilized Nation at this Day in Europe fairly ask itself the Question, whether this would not have been the Case; and, I am confident, the Answer must be in the Affirmative.

FROM the best Accounts we have of the first Discoveries of America, we learn, that the Discoverers met with no Resistance nor ill Treatment from the Inhabitants of that part of the World. Single Ships have gone, and a handful of Men have landed upon Islands and Continents crowded

crowded with People, without receiving CHAP. any Marks of their Resentment, ill Usage, or Barbarity. They were at first surprized: But as foon as they were recovered out of their first Alarm, they (on many Occasions) became extremely tractable and humane: Much more fo, in all probability, than we should have been, on the like occasion. But we were not content to have discovered a Country, with which we might trade for many valuable and useful Commodities which we wanted, and which they were inclined to exchange with us against Trifles and Baubles: No; We must by Force or Art subdue the Original Possessions of that Country. To this end, large Fleets and Armaments were from time to time fent out; and having gotten a small footing, we could not rest till we had enlarged it; and thus at length Power became Right. Having, by all Human, and Inhuman Inventions, made One Conquest; we proceeded to a Second: And having subdued a Part of the People; we cajoled or frightened them, by Arts or Threats into Alliances with us. We then furnished them with Fire Arms against their fellow Na24

I.

CHAP, tives; and, what is worse, introduced amongst them those intoxicating Spirits, which produced fo much Fury and Cruelty amongst them; and are at this Day the Cause of so much Irregularity amongst Ourselves. Nay, Religion itself was made use of as an Instrument put into their hands to destroy each other; and to carry into Execution, the most wicked and abominable Schemes and Practices. It appears, very evidently from the Accounts, which the Jesuits themselves give of their Missions, that, though several of them fuffered great Hardships, and even Death itself in the most terrible and cruel manner at their first settling amongst the Savages; yet temporal Advantages were the chief inducements to that Undertaking; and the Ties of Religion made use of, only because none other were strong enough to hold them*.

IN

^{*} CHARLEVOIX Vol. IV. p. 152. has the following remarkable Passage, viz. "The Governour adds at the end of his Letter, that the English neglect co nothing to gain the Abenaquis Nation to their Ince terests. They make them Presents, and offer them "Goods at a cheap rate, as well as Ministers to in-66 Aruct

In turning over the Accounts given of CHAP. the Conquests made in this part of the World, we frequently meet with noble Struggles made by the People we call Savages; and brave Efforts, to recover their ancient and primitive Liberties. These Liberties confisted in their being governed by their own Rulers, and the Laws enacted by them; In a right to make War against any neighbouring Nation, which had affronted, or used them ill; in the Power of changing their Habitations, as Occasion required; and of Hunting for their Winter Provision and Cloathing, wherever they thought proper. These Excursions and Removals seldom failed of creating Wars amongst them: And, if upon any of those Occasions, two different Nations not allied, met; the Conflict was generally desperate; and the Vanquished were treated inhumanly and barbaroufly. The Confequences of fuch a

[&]quot; firust them: But the Baron de St. Castin, and the Missionaries do Wonders to persuade them from it. Father de la Chasse informs him that the Grace of God often stands in need of the Assistance and Cooperation of Men; and that Temporal Interests are frequently of Great Help to Faith."

C H A P. Victory were great Triumph on the fide I. of the Conquerors, and fworn Revenge on that of the Conquered. Hence Wars were almost constantly kept on foot amongst themselves: Until, as one fide got the better, and the other became too weak to withstand its Enemy, this was either quite extirpated, or obliged to look out for a more distant and safer Settlement. This was no difficult matter amongst that People, who had little to remove, but what they carried on their backs. Their whole Furniture or Baggage confifted in a few Skins, a Bow and Arrows, a kind of Hatchet, and their Wives and Children. They made Boats of the Bark of Trees, fown together with roots, and bedaubed with Gums. These they carried over the lands on their Shoulders; And when they came to Lakes or Rivers, they launched them, and embarked their whole Tribe.

Thus much for their Wars amongst themselves. But we have likewise seen them disputing their Liberties with the Europeans: Offering to trade with them upon a fair footing; desiring to keep a good Correspondence with them; disclaiming and renouncing all Enmity; but protesting

protesting against the Right which was CHAP. pretended to a Sovereignty over them, I. their Lands, Possessions, Laws or Liberties. Nay we have feen them, from this fingle Principle, engaged in long, bloody, and repeated Conflicts with the Europeans: And often maintain themselves by Force and Perseverance, against all the Strength and Stratagem their Enemies could at that time oppose to them. Bravery they are allowed to have, in the highest Degree; and, on many Occasions, are not wanting in Conduct and Contrivance. But the Arts and Management of the Europeans, have put their Politicks upon quite another Footing at this Day. That Original Simplicity and Difinterestedness is now no more to be met with; but Cunning and Deceit have taken its place. Violence, Cruelty, Drunkenness, and all kinds of Debauchery have been cultivated and improved amongst them, to an incredible and excessive Degree. The Popish Powers have made many of them Nominal Christians, as it is easy to change one kind of Idolatry for another; and by their Lies, Legends, and Legerdemain, have bound them to their Interests. The Protestant Powers, too regardless of all E 2 Religion,

I.

CHAP. Religion, take very little Care or Pains about instructing these ignorant poor Creatures, but only endeavour to procure their Friendship, by trading with them at a lower rate for European Goods, than the French can afford to do; and giving a higher Price for their Commodities. This, together with the furnishing them with Fire Arms, Powder and Ammunition, Tobacco, and Brandy, is the only Method I know of which the English employ to keep the Savages their Friends. Whereas the French, by having a constant and infinite Number of Jesuits, Seminaries, Nunneries and Convents amongst them, can and do, upon every Ocafion, excite the Savages to join with them, in annoying Us.

> But though the above Account may posfibly be entertaining enough to some Readers, yet it has led me a good deal wide of my Purpose; which is to shew in the next Place, what are the Rights of each Power, to what they claim in America, as founded upon Treaties. herein, I shall on this Occasion, consider only fuch Treaties as are between England and France.

> > CHAP.

CHAP. II.

An Extract of Such Articles of the Treaty of Utrecht, as re-Spect the English Nation; particularly in regard to America: With Remarks upon each Article berein cited.

INDER the Article of Treaties, I CHAP. imagined I should have Occasion to mention more than one: But having by way of Notes on Mr. Dummer's Memorial, made such Remarks as were necessary on those of 1632. and 1655. I shall here confine myself to those parts of the Treaty of Utrecht, which relate to our Affairs with France. To which purpose, I shall transcribe all those Articles, or the Substance of them, which in any Shape respect England: and close this Chapter with some Remarks on each Article.

ART.

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CHAP.

ART. IV.

THE King of France hereby folemnly Extract of the Treaty of and fincerely acknowledges the Limitation Utrecht. of the Succession of the Crown of Great Britain (as fettled by the Laws made in the Reigns of King William and Queen Mary,) to the Issue of Queen Anne; and in default thereof, to the Princess Sopbia, and her Heirs in the Protestant Line of Hanover. He, on the Faith and Word of The French King admits a King, and on the Pledge of his Own the Protestant and Successor's Honour, accepts and ap-Succession. proves the same for Ever: And that no Person, than according to the said Limitation, shall ever by Him, his Heirs, or Successors be acknowledged or reputed to

ART. V.

be King or Queen of Great Britain.

THE faid King, in the same folemn Manner engages, that neither He nor his Heirs or Successfors ever will at any time hereafter disturb the Queen, her Heirs or Successors, descended from the aforesaid Protestant Line, who possess the Crown

of Great Britain. Nor will the faid King C H A P. &c. give at any time any Succour, Aid, II. Favour or Counsel directly or indirectly, Disavous the by Land or by Sea, in Money, Arms, Pretender, Ammunition, Warlike Provisions, Ships, Soldiers, Seamen, or any other way, to any Person or Persons, whosoever they be, who for any Cause, or under any Pretext whatsoever, should hereafter oppose the said Succession, either by Open War, or by fomenting Seditions, or forming Conspiracies against such Prince or Princes who are in Possession of the Throne of Great Britain, by virtue of the Acts of Parliament abovementioned.

ART. VI.

Contains Letters Patent by the King The King of of France, for admitting the Renuncia-Spain's Retion of the King of Spain to the Crown nunciation of the Crown of of France: And those of Monsieur the France. Duke of Berry, and Monsieur the Duke of Orleans to the Crown of Spain. As likewise the King of Spain's Renunciation; and those of the Dukes of Berry and Orleans.

ART,

Снар.

ART IX.

Fortification
&c. of DunThe King of France engages that the
kirk to be de-Fortifications of Dunkirk, shall be razed,
molished.

The King of France engages that the
kirk to be de-Fortifications of Dunkirk, shall be razed,
the Harbour filled up, the Sluices or
Moles which cleanse the Harbour levelled, at the said King's own Charge, and
Expence, within five Months after the
Signing of the Peace; on the Express

ART. X.

Condition, that they shall never be repaired

Restores Hudson's Bay. again.

RESTORES to Great Britain the Bay and Streights of Hudson, with all Lands, Seas, Sea Coasts, Rivers and Places in the said Bay and Streights; no Tracts of Land or Sea being excepted, which are at present possessed by the Subjects of France. All which, together with all Buildings, Fortresses, &c. erected there before or since the French seized the same, shall within six Months from the Ratissication of this Treaty, or sooner if possible be delivered to the British Subjects, entire and undemolished, together with Cannon

and Cannon Ball, Powder in proportion, C H A P. and other warlike Stores belonging to Cannon.

ART. XI.

Provides that Satisfaction be made to Promifes Sathe Hudson's Bay Company, for all Dama-tisfaction to ges and Spoils done to their Colonies and the Hudson's BayCompany. Ships, Persons and Goods, by the Hostile Incursions and Depredations of the French in time of Peace, to be settled by Commissation, who shall also enquire into the Complaints of the British Subjects, of Ships taken by the French in time of Peace; and concerning Damages done and sustained at Montserrat.

ART. XII.

THE King of France hereby engages that on the same Day the Ratisfications of this Treaty shall be exchanged, folemn and authentick Letters and Instruments shall be delivered to the Queen of Great Britain; by virtue whereof it shall appear that the Island of St. Christopher's is to be hereafter possessed alone by British Subjects,

II.

CHAP. jeets; likewise all Nova Scotia or Acadia with its ancient Boundaries, as also the City of Port-Royal, now called Annapolis Royal; and all other things in those Parts which depend on the faid Lands and Islands; with Dominion, Property and Possession of the said Islands, Lands and Places; and that the Subjects of the King of France shall be excluded from all kinds of Fishing in the said Seas, Bays, and other Places on the Coast of Nova Scotia, which lie towards the East, within thirty Leagues from the Island called Sable inclusively, and thence stretching along towards the South-west.

ART. XIII.

Settles the Affairs of Newfoundland.

THE Island of * Newfoundland, with the Adjacent Islands shall from this time forward

* CHARLEVOIX Vol. IV. p. 152. fays, " As to Newfoundland, the English gained more by the " Cession of what we possessed there, than we lost: 66 For besides, that Amends was amply made to us for

[&]quot; Placentia, by getting Cape Breton (fince the In-" habitants of the former, were all transported to

⁶⁶ Lewisbourg) the People soon found themselves more co agreeably and advantagiously situated at Cape Bre-

forward belong of Right wholly to Bri- CHAP. tain: And to that End, the Town and Fortress of Placentia, and whatever other Places in the Island are in possesfion of the French, shall be yielded and given up to the English within a time therein limited. Moreover, it shall not be lawful for the Subjects of France to fortify any Place in the faid Island of Newfoundland; or to erect any Buildings there, besides Stages made of Boards, and Huts, necessary and usual for drying Fish: Or to refort to the Island beyond the time necessary for fishing and drying of Fish. But it shall be allowed to the Subjects of France to catch Fish, and dry them on Land, in that part only, and in No other but that, of the Island, which stretches from the Place called Cape Bonavista, to the Northern Point of the faid Island, and from thence running down to the Western Side, reaches as far as the Place called the Pointe Riche. But the Island

" they had us for their Neighbours."

[&]quot;ton than they ever had been at Newfoundland.
"Whereas the English faw indeed themselves absolute

[&]quot;Masters of this Island; but where they could

[&]quot; not affure themselves of any thing, so long as

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CHAP. of Cape Breton, as also all others, both in the Mouth of the River of St. Laurence, Claims Cape and in the Gulph of the same Name, shall Breton, &c. hereafter belong of Right to the French King; who shall have Liberty to fortify any Place or Places there.

ART. XV.

Settles the Subjects of each Crown.

Provides, that the Subjects of France inhabiting Canada, shall not in any shape disturb the five Indian Nations, or Cantons, which are subject to the Dominion of Great Britain; nor the other Natives of America, who are Friends to the same; Nor the British Subjects disturb the Americans, who are Subjects or Friends to France. But it is to be exactly and distinctly settled by Commissaries, who are, and who ought to be accounted, the Subjects and Friends to England, or to France.

This Treaty was con- 3 March 31, 1713. cluded at Utrecht,

HAVING thus gone through the most material Articles of the famous Treaty of Utrecht; I shall mention One Particular more,

more, which certainly is an amazing One. С н A Р. The Peace being thus fettled between Great Britain and France, there remained still a Negotiation to be carried on with Spain: In the Progress of which, Our Plenipotentiaries suffered a Clause to be inferted at the End of the 15th Article, the Words of which are as follows: Whereas A Clause in it is inserted on the Part of Spain, that favour of the certain Rights of Fishing at the Island of inserted in Newfoundland, belong to the Guipuscoans, the Treaty or other Subjects of the Catholick King; of Utrecht. Her Britannick Majesty consents and agrees, that all such Privileges as the Guipuscoans, and other People of Spain are able to make Claim to by Right, shall be allowed and preserved to them.

We have faid, that the English Pleni-Observations potentiaries suffered this Clause and Claim on the said of the Spaniards to be inserted, although it was in direct Contradiction of a Treaty between the Crowns of England and Spain, concluded fuly \$\frac{s}{19}\$, 1670. The 7th and 8th Articles of which expreshy declare; "That the most Serene King of "Great Britain, his Heirs and Successors, "Ihall have, hold, keep, and enjoy for ever, with

CHAP. " with Plenary Right of Sovereignty, Do-II. " minion, Possession and Property, all those

" Lands, Regions, Islands, Colonies, and

" Places what soever, being or situated in

" the West Indies, or in any Part of

" America, which the said King of Great

" Britain and his Subjects do at present

bold and possess.

" And the Subjects, &c. of each Con-" federate respectively, shall abstain and " forbear to Sail and Trade in the Ports " and Havens which have Fortifications, " Castles, Magazines, or Ware-houses, and " in all other Places what soever, possessed by the other Party in the West Indies."

Not long after the figning of the Peace, Order to the the Board of Trade was confulted upon Board of Frade to enthis Claim of the Spaniards; and returned quire into the the following Answer, dated June 13, jaid Claim, 1713.

> " In Obedience to Her Majesty's Com-" mands of the 1st Instant, we have con-" sidered the Extract of a Memorial from " the Marquis De Monteleon, relating to the Claim of the Inhabitants of the " Province

- " Province of Guipuscoa, to fish on the CHAP.
- " Coast of Newfoundland; and thereupon II.
- " take leave to inform your Lordship * * Lord
- " that we have discoursed with such Per- Dartmouth.
- " fons as are able to give us Information in
- "that Matter: And we find that some Answer of "Spaniards have come thither with Passes the Board,
- " from Her Majesty: And others may
- " have fished there privately; but never
- " any, that we can learn, did do it as of
- " Right belonging to them."

To bring this Matter nearer to our own Times, and to shew that the Ministers or Plenipotentiaries could not be ignorant of the Exclusion of the French, as well as Spaniards from any Right of fishing at Newfoundland; by an Act passed An Act, dein the 10th and 11th Years of the Reign barring For of King William, to encourage the Trade Filling at to Newfoundland, it is enacted, "That no Newfound " Alien or Stranger what soever, not re-land.

- " siding within the Kingdom of England,
- " Dominion of Wales, or Town of Berwick
- " upon Tweed, shall at any Time hereafter
- " take, bait, or use any sort of Trade,
- " or Fishing whatsoever in Nowfoundland, " or in any of the adjacent Islands." And

The Importance and Advantage

C H A P. in pursuance of this Act it is, that Instruc-II. tions were given every Year to the Commodore of the Convoys, to prevent Foreigners from coming thither.

Remarks on the 4th and 5th Article of the Treaty of Utrecht.

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As to the IVth Article of the foregoing Treaty, it is to be observed, that the Queen was not acknowledged by *France*, nor defigned to be so, till the Conclusion of a Peace; as *France* afterwards explained that Matter at the General Congress.

How far the folemn and fincere Engagements of such a King; His Faith and Word; or the pledging bis Own or his Succeffor's Honour are to be depended on, the present Posture of Affairs sufficiently evinces; when not able, or not daring openly to invade us with his Troops, he makes use of that Instrument he so folemnly disavows, to annoy and disturb us; affisting him with Men, Money, Arms, Ammunition, and even Shipping, to land in His Majesty's Dominions, and raise a Rebellion amongst his Subjects. All which the Vth Article does expressly, and in the strongest Manner provide against.

THE IXth Article, by which the King of France engages to destroy the Fortifications Remark on of Dunkirk, &c. was not only never com-the 9th Arplied with, but instead thereof, an addi-ticle. tional Fortress built in the Neighbourhood of the former, which, as I am informed, is much stronger and better contrived to annoy the British Channel-Trade; should the Nation ever think proper to infift upon a Compliance with this Article. This is most shameful Prevarication: But why it was not infifted on, foon after the Time fixed by the Treaty, cannot be collected from any thing better than from an Extract of a Memorial delivered by Monsieur de Torcy to the Lord Bolingbroke at Paris, in August 1712. wherein he says, "It " is not our Bufiness now to examine whe-" ther the Queen of England, and the " English Nation were in the Right to " demand the Demolition of the Fortifica-" tions, and the filling up the Harbour of " Dunkirk: That is a Thing resolved and " agreed upon. It may perhaps come to " pass in the Course of this Affair, for " Reasons easily to be foreseen, that Eng-" land shall repent having demanded, the

The Importance and Advantage

CHAP. "Demolition of a Place, and the Destruc-II. "tion of a Harbour, which might be of "great Use in Conjunctures, which perhaps "are not very remote."

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FROM hence it will eafily and naturally occur to any Person, who considers the Circumstances of those Times, and the Dispositions of the Persons then at the Helm of the State, why the Time fixed was fuffered to elapse, without complying with one of the best Articles of the Peace: But why that Court has not (during the Administration of such as were warmest in the Profecution of their Predecessors) been obliged to fulfil the express Terms of that Article, cannot, I think, be accounted for otherwise, than by faying, that as the French Court had been suffered to build the Fortifications of Mardyke, it availed nothing to infift upon the Demolition of Dunkirk; and would only expose us to a Quarrel and perhaps a War with a Nation, with whom it feems, we were not on any Account to quarrel,

THE Event has sufficiently justified the Marquis de Torcy's Argument; for from hence

hence have been fent all the Affistance the C H A P.

French have given the Pretender: And here, and at Ostend have been collected the Troops and Shipping designed for an Invasion of the British Dominions. These Proceedings of the French Court have certainly opened our Eyes, as to the Importance of these two Ports: And it is to be hoped we shall not (as those wise and worthy Patriots did) sign any future Peace, till we see such essential Articles either actually executed and performed to the Rigour, and utmost Extent of them; or good Cautionary Places given in the mean time, till they are so performed.

THE Xth Article restores to Great-Remark on Britain the Bay and Streights of Hudson, &c. the 10th ArBut in Lieu thereof, the Ministry of those ticle.

Times suffered themselves to be so grossly imposed upon as (by the VIIIth Article of the Treaty of Commerce) to give to France all they wanted; namely, a Liberty of taking and drying their Fish upon Newsoundland.

THE XIth Article provides, that Satisf-Remark on faction be made to the Hudson's Bay Com-the 11th Article.

G 2 pany,

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CHAP. pany, &c. But shews at the same Time, II. that in those Days, as almost every Day since, the French were making Hostile Incursions and Depredations, as well as taking British Ships, in Time of Peace.

Remark on the 12th Article.

THE XIIth Article engages, that the Island of St. Christoper's, all Nova Scotia, or Acadia, as also Port-Royal, now called Annapolis-Royal, shall hereafter be possessed by British Subjects only. It excludes the Subjects of France from fishing in the said Seas, &c. Whereas it is notorious that they have ever since, till the War was proclaimed, continued fishing all along those Coasts at their pleasure.

THE XIIIth Article provides, that the Island of Newfoundland, &c. shall of Right belong wholly to the English; and Placentia be yielded up to them. The French shall not fortify any Place on that Island, nor build any thing, besides Stages and Hutts, to catch and dry Fish, on a certain Part of the Island: But the Island of Cape Breton shall hereafter belong to the French.

CHAP.

In a Memorial delivered or fent by II. Mr. St. John to Monsieur de Torcy, dated Remark on May 24, 1712, O.S. Art. IV. it was the 13th Arproposed, That the Islands in the Gulph of ticle. St. Laurence, and in the Mouth of the River of that Name, which are at present possessed by the French, may remain to His most Christian Majesty; but expressly on Condition that His said Majesty shall engage himself not to raise, or suffer to be raised, any Fortifications in these Islands, or those of Cape Breton. The Queen likewise engages not to raise any Fortifications in the adjacent Islands, and those of Newfoundland, nor in that of Cape Breton: For by the foregoing Article it was provided, that the Queen's Subjects, and His Majesty's, should enjoy the Island of Cape Breton in common. This shews that the Ministry was aware of the Importance of that Island, yet gave it up by this XIIIth Article, in Exchange for Newfoundland; where, at the same Time, they allowed the French the Liberty of catching and drying Fish: That is, they gave up that valuable and Important Island for nothing

II.

CHAP, at all; granting the French even more than they at first asked. Nay, this Concession was likewise in direct Contradiction of the foregoing Article: For in an Absolute Cession of Nova Scotia, or Acadia, (as the Queen calls it, in her Speech to the Parliament, on the 6th of June, 1712.) Cape Breton was always understood to be comprized; and was declared by the Queen's Instructions to the Duke of Shrewsbury, to be a Part of Nova Scotia. It was however given up, with the same Ease as every other Point which the French Ministry insisted on; and they were suffered to fortify themselves there.

Remark on the 15th Arsicle.

THE XVth Article provides that the Subjects of Canada shall not disturb the Indian Nations, subject to Great Britain; nor we, on our Part, disturb their American Subjects. I am of opinion, that this Article has been too often broke through on both Sides, to afford any great Right of Complaint to either.

HAVING thus gone through the Treaty of Utrecht, as far as it related to our Purpole;

pose; and made such Remarks upon the CHAP. feveral Parts of it, as we imagined might be entertaining, at least, to those Readers who have not had Opportunity of enquiring into these Affairs; we shall now proceed to an Enquiry into the Situation, Climate, Produce, and Ports, of the Island of Cape Breton, lately conquered (I may fay, so gloriously conquered) by His Majesty's Subjects; and wrested, once more, out of the Hands of that haughty, perfidious, and infulting Nation. All Treaties are now broke through; and, whenever Peace is restored, we must endeavour to remedy all the Mistakes (to give them no worse a Name) of former Administrations.

CHAP. III.

A General Description of the Island of Cape Breton; its Situation, Climate, Produce, Ports, &c. as collected from different Authors.

CHAP.

SALMON, in his Modern History of all Nations, Vol. IIId. p. 645. of the London Edition, in 4to. 1739. gives the following Account of this Island.

Salmon's Description of Cape Breton.

CAPE BRETON is situate between 45 ½ and 47 ½ Degrees of North Latitude; and is separated from Acadia, or New Scotland, by the Narrow Streights of Canso, on the South-west; and the other Streight or Passage of Cape Rey separates it from Newsfoundland on the North-east. It is indented on every Side, by large Bays of the Sea, which cut almost through it in some Places, and form several commodious Harbours. The Island is about 120 Miles in length, and 50 Miles in breadth. It

is a barren, defart Land, affording scarce C H A P. any Trees or Herbage; and has very sew III.

Rivers. It would probably never have been planted, if it had not lain so convenient for the French to preserve their Communication with the River of St. Laurence and Canada; and to protect their Fisheries, as well as to disturb the Trade and Fisheries of Great Britain, in Times of War.

THE Island of St. John lyes between Of St. John's Cape Breton, and the Coast of New Scot-Island. land; and is about 20 Leagues in Length.

The Island of Anticoste is a much larger Of Anticoste Island, lying just before the Mouth of Island.

St. Laurence River. These, and the lesser Islands in the Bay of St. Laurence do not seem to be of any other Use to the French, than to preserve their Communication with Canada. I do not find they have any Towns or Plantations upon them.

THUS far Salmon. But what will add great Weight to all we shall say upon this Subject, is, that it is chiefly collected from French Authors, and such as have lately been upon the Spot. Charlevoix, in the Fourth Volume of his History of France,

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CHAP. in 8vo. published at Paris, 1744. gives the III. following Description of Cape Breton.

Charlevoix's
Description
of Cape
Breton.

By the Cession of Acadia and Placentia to the English, there remained to France no other Place to carry on the Fishery of Cod-Fish, or at least to dry their Fish in, but the Island of Cape Breton, which is now only known by the Name of l'Isle Royale. This Island is situated between 45 and 47 Degrees of North Latitude; and forms, with the Island of Newfoundland, (from which it is distant but about 15 Leagues) the Entrance of the Gulph of St. Laurence. The Streight which separates Cape Breton from Acadia, is about five common Leagues of France in length, and about one in breadth: It is called the Passage of Fronsac. The Length of the Island, from North-east to South-west, is not quite fifty Leagues. Its Figure is irregular; and it is in fuch a manner cut through by Lakes and Rivers, that the two principal Parts of it hold together, only by an Ishmus of about eight hundred Paces in breadth: Which Neck of Land separates the Bottom of Port Toulouse, from feveral Lakes, which are called La-

Passage of Fronsac.

brador.

brador. The Lakes empty themselves into C H A P. the Sea, to the East, by two Channels of unequal Breadth, which are formed by the Islands Verderonne and la Boularderie, which is from seven to eight Leagues long.

THE Climate of this Island is pretty Clima ... near the same with that of Quebec : And Cape Bree although Mists and Fogs are more frequent here, yet no one complains that the Air is unwholesome. All the Lands here are not good; nevertheless they produce Trees Produce of of all Sorts. There are Oaks of a pro-Cape Breton. digious Size, Pines for Masts, and all Sorts of Timber fit for Carpenter's Work. The most common Sorts, besides the Oak, are the Cedar, Ash, Maple, Plane-tree, and Aspin. Fruits; particularly Apples, Pulse, Herbs and Roots, Wheat, and all other Grain, necessary for Sustenance; Hemp and Flax abound here less, but are every whit as good as in Canada. It has been observed, that the Mountains may be cultivated up to their Tops; that the good Soil inclines always towards the South: and that it is covered from the North and North-west Winds by the Mountains, H 2 which

The Importance and Advantage

CHAP. which border upon the River of St. Lau-III. rence,

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ALL the domestick Animals, such as Horses, horned Cattle, Hogs, Sheep, Goats, and Poultry, pick up a good Livelihood here. What is got by Hunting, Shooting, and Fishing, is able to maintain the Inhabitants a good Part of the Year, This Island abounds in Coal-pits, which are in the Mountains; confequently, the Trouble and Expence of digging deep, and making Drains to carry off the Water, are greatly faved. Here is likewise Plaster in great abundance. It faid, that there is no Part of the World, where more Cod-fish is caught, nor where there is so good Conveniency for drying it. Formerly this Island was full of Deer; they are now very scarce, particularly Elks. Partridges are here almost as large as Pheasants; and, in their Feathers, not unlike them. In a word, the Fishery of Sea-pike, Porpoises, &c. is in great abundance here, and carried on with great Ease,

Its Ports, in ALL its Ports open to the East, turning general.

a little to the South, and within the Space

of fifty-five Leagues, beginning at Port CHAP. Dauphin, and continuing to Port Toulouse, which is almost at the Entrance of the Passage of Fronsac. In all other Parts of the Island, it is difficult to find Anchorage for fmall Veffels, in fmall Creeks, or amongst the Islands. All the Northern Coast is very high, and almost inaccesfible: And it is very difficult to land on the Western Coast, till you come to the Passage of Fronsac, out of which you are no fooner got, but you meet with the Port Toulouse, known formerly by the Port Tou-Name of St. Peter. This Port is strictly loufe. between a kind of Gulph (which is called Little St. Peter's) and the Islands St. Peter, over-against the Islands Madame, or Maurepas. From thence, ascending towards the South-east, you find the Bay of Gaborie, of which the Entrance (which Gaborie Bay, is near twenty Leagues distant from St. or Caborose Peter's Islands) is a League broad, between Islands and Rocks. It is very safe to come near these Islands, some of which advance a League and Half into the Sea. This Bay is two Leagues deep, and the Anchorage very good.

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CHAP.

III. Lewisburg.

THE Harbour of Lewisburg, formerly called the English Harbour, is not above a large League from the above Bay; AND IS PEPHAPS ONE OF THE FINEST IN AMERICA. It is near four Leagues in Circumference; and every where there are fix or feven Fathoms Water. The Anchorage is very good; and you may, without danger, run a Ship aground upon the Mud. The Entrance is not above two hundred Fathoms wide; and lies between two small Islands. It is discovered at the distance of twelve Leagues, at Sea, by the Cape of Lorembec, which is but at a small distance from it to the Northeast. Two Leagues further up, is the Port de la Baleine; the Entrance of which is very difficult, occasioned by many Rocks, which the Sea covers, when it is agitated. No Ships of greater Burden than 300 Tons, can go into it; but they are quite fafe there, when they are got in.

Port de la Baleine.

Bay of Pe- From thence, in less than the distance of two Leagues, you come to the Bay of Penadou, or Menadou; the Entrance of which

which is about a League broad, and the C H A P. Bay itself is about two Leagues deep, Almost over-against this Bay, is the Island Scatari (formerly called Little Cape Breton) Island Scawhich is above two Leagues long. The Bay of Mire is separated from it by a very Bay of Mire. narrow Neck of Land. The Entrance of this Bay is likewise near two Leagues wide, and is at least eight Leagues deep. It grows narrower, the further you go into it; and many fmall Rivers and Rivulets empty themselves into it. Large Ships may go up it, about fix Leagues, and find there good Anchorage, under cover of the Hills. Besides the Island of Scatari; there are many other fmall ones, and Rocks, which the Sea never covers, but may be discovered a great way off. The largest of these Rocks, is called the Forillon. The Bay of Morienne is higher up, separated Bay of Mefrom the Bay of Mire by the Cape Brule; rienne. and a little higher is l'Isle Plate, or l'Isle à Pierre de fusil, directly in the Latitude of 46 Degrees 8 Minutes. There is between all these Islands and Rocks, very good Shelter, and you may go amongst them, and near them, without Fear or Danger.

CHAP.

l'Indiana Harbour. Bay des Efpagnols.

FROM hence, proceeding for about three Leagues to the North-west, you find a very good Harbour, which is called l'Indiane: but it is fit only for small Vessels. From l'Indiane, to the Bay des Espagnols, there are two Leagues. This Bay is a very fine Harbour. Its Entrance is but about a thousand paces wide; but it grows wider, and at the height of a League divides itself into two Branches, which may be failed up for three Leagues. Both these Branches are excellent Ports. which might be made better at a very fmall Expence. From this Bay to the lesser Entrance of * Labrador are two Leagues: and the Island which separates the leffer from the larger Entrance, is about two leagues long. Labrador is a Gulph above twenty Leagues long, and is about three or four wide, in its greatest Breadth. It is counted a League and half

^{*} There is a large Continent, situated between the Gulph and River of St. Laurence, and Hudson's Bay, which is called Labrador, and by the English New Britain, or New Wales, which must not be confounded with this, in the Island of Cape Breton, which is a Lake.

from the large Entrance of Labrador, to CHAP. the Port Dauphin or St Anne; and you III. may come to an Anchor, almost any Port Dauwhere, amongst the Islands of Cibou. Aphin, or Port Neck of Land almost entirely covers the St. Anne, Port, and leaves Room for no more than one Ship at a time to go in. The Port Dauphin is about two Leagues in Circumference; and Ships hardly feel the wind there, by reason of the Height of the Mountains which furround it: They may come as near the Shore as they please. All these Harbours and Ports being so near to each other, it would be very easy to make Roads by Land from One to the other; and nothing could be more advantagious to the Inhabitants, than these Communications, which would fave them the trouble in the Winter Season, of going so far about, by Sea. This is the Description, given of this Island in general by the abovementioned Jesuit, who has been a long time there, pretends to be very exact in his Enquiries, and published his History a very little while before this Important Island was conquered by the English Nation.

CHAP. HE afterwards proceeds to describe MI. more particularly some of the above Ports, such as that of Lewisburg, and that of St. Anne or Port Dauphin.

AFTER the Cession of Placentia and Acadia to the Crown of England, it is certain that the French had no other Place where they could dry their Fish, or even fish in Sasety, but the Island of Cape Breton: they were therefore drove by Necessity to settle an Establishment there, and to fortify it.

More particular Description of Port Lewisburg.

THEY began by changing its Name, and called it l'Isle Royale. They next deliberated upon the Choice of a proper place to settle the General Quarters in; and they were for a long time divided between Lewisburg and Port Dauphin. It has been already said that the former is one of the finest Harbours in all America: that it has near four Leagues in Circumference; that there is Anchorage all over it, in Six or Seven Fathoms Water; that the Anchorage is good, and that one may run a Ship aground in the Mud,

with-

without Danger. It's Entrance is not C H A P. two Hundred Fathoms wide, between III. two little Islands, which may easily defend it. The Cod-Fishing is there very abundant, and one may fish there from the Month of April, to the End of December. But then it was faid that the Land about this Port is barren; and that it would cost immense Sums to fortify it; because all the Materials must be brought a great way. Befides which, it had, it feems, been remarked that there was no fandy bottom in this Harbour, for more than about forty fishing Vessels.

In has likewise been observed that the Port St. Anne, or Dauphin, has a fure and fafe Road for Ships, at its Entrance, amongst the Islands of Cibou; and that a Neck of Land almost entirely shuts up the Port, leaving a Passage for no more than one Vessel at a time. This Port, More parti-thus shut up, has near two Leagues Cir-cular Descripcumference in an oval Form: Ships may tion of Port here come as near as they please to the Dauphin. Land; and the Mountains which furround it, keep off the Winds in such a manner, that they are hardly felt. They who

were

III.

CHAP, were for chusing this Port for the Chief Settlement, alledged that it might be rendered impregnable at an easy rate; that more might be done here for two thoufand Livres, than at Lewisburg for two Hundred Thousand; because every thing necessary for building a large City, and fortifying it, was at hand. It is further certain that the fandy Bottom is as extenfive here, as at Placentia; that the Fishing is very good; that there is a great Quantity of excellent Timber about this Place, fuch as Maple, Beach, and wild Cherry tree, but above all Oaks of above thirty feet high, fit for building, &c. It is likewife true, that Marble is here very common; that the Lands are generally good; that about the great and smaller Entrances of Labrador, which are but at the Distance of a League and half, the Soil is very good. In a word, this Port is but four Leagues distant from the Bay des Espagnols, which is likewise a very good Harbour, where the Lands are excellent, and covered with Woods fit for almost all Uses. It is true that here is no fishing in small Boats, on account of the westerly Winds, which generally blow here; here; but one may fish here, as at New- C H A P. England in large ones.

THE only Inconveniency of Port St. Anne, is, that the Entrance is difficult: and this Inconveniency alone determined the Controversy in Favour of Lewisburg; where neither Pains nor Expence have been spared to render it both convenient and impregnable.

THE Island of St. John, which is Description of near Cape Breton is the largest of all those St John's in the Gulph of St. Laurence. It has the Island. Advantage, in this respect, even of Cape Breton, that all the Land is here good and fertile. It is about twenty-two Leagues long, and fifty in Circumference: It has a sure and convenient Port, and was formerly covered with Timber of all kinds.

UNTIL a Settlement was made at Cape Breton, no body minded St John's Island; but the Neighbourhood of these two Islands, soon convinced the Settlers, that they might be of great Use to each other.

CHAP. IV.

The Advantages to the English Nation, arising from the Conquest of Cape Breton.

CHAP. IN the Course of this Chapter, I intend III.

FIRST, to collect the most authentick Accounts I can meet with, of the Use the French made, or intended to make, of this Island of Cape Breton; as well in promoting their own Trade and Benefit, as in curbing and distressing our's.

SECONDLY, to shew how much the Tables are turned upon them, by its being in the Possession of the King of Great Britain, and his Subjects, if the Greatest Advantage that may be, is made of this Acquisition.

As to the First; it will best appear, from an Extract of a long Memorial prefented

of CAPE BRETON, &c.

fented by Mess. Raudot, to the French C H A P. Ministers, as early as the Year 1706, and their repeated Applications from that time to the Year 1713. These Gentlemen never ceased representing to the Court the indispensable Necessity of making a solid Establishment in the Island of Cape Breton; if it was intended that the Colonies of New France should ever turn to any Account.

THE Memorialists set out, by suppo-Memorial of fing and faying, that the Principal, and Mell. Raualmost only View People had in settling at Canada, was the Fur-trade; especially that of the Beaver: But, fay they, it ought to have been foreseen, that either the Beaver would, in time, be quite exhausted; or, by its Quantity, it would become too common: And confequently, a Colony of that Importance, could not long be supported by it. In effect, it has fallen into the latter of these Inconveniencies; and the Abundance of Beaver, has ruined the Trade of it. If, on the other hand, this had not happened; but there had always been a sufficient Demand for those Furs; then the other Inconveni64

IV.

CHAP. ency must have followed; namely, that the Species of Beaver had been quite destroyed. Besides this Dilemma; the very hunting of those Animals, and running about the Woods and Lakes after them, was the ruin of the Inhabitants; who thereby fell into a Vagabond, idle Course of Life; from which it is difficult ever to reclaim them, and bring them to the more laborious Task of clearing and cultivating the Lands.

> In the mean time, the King expends every Year in the Colony of Canada 100000 Crowns. The Furs amount to 280000 Livres; the Penfions, which the King gives to particular People, and the Revenues which the Bishop and the Seminaries have in France amount to 50000 Livres; which, altogether, make a Fund of about 630000 Livres, upon which the whole Commerce of New France turns. It is evident, that fuch an infignificant Sum is not sufficient to maintain from 20 to 25000 Souls; and to furnish them with what they are obliged to have from France.

About 31500 l. Sterling.

CHAP.

FROM hence, and from the Failure in Price of the Beaver, it has happened that all the ready Money of Canada has been fent to France for Goods from thence: Infomuch, that at a certain time, there was not, in all this Country, above a Thousand Crowns in Money: Which Defect was supplied, though with many Inconveniencies, by Paper Money. To remedy these Evils, and to render the Colony more flourishing, the People here might enrich themselves with the Product of the Country, if they were put into a proper Method. This Product might be made to confift in Salt Meats, Masts, Planks, Timber for building, Pitch and Tar, Oyl of Whales, Porpoifes, &c. in Cod Fish, Hemp and Flax: To which might be added Iron and Copper. The Difficulty of doing this, confifts in two things; First to find a Consumption or Demand for these Commodities; and Secondly, to reduce the Wages of Work of all kinds. This latter Difficulty arises from the Idleness before mentioned of the Inhabitants, and from the Dearness of Goods in France. The Method, there-K fore,

CHAP. fore, is to employ every Individual ac-IV. cording to his Trade or Capacity; and to enable every one to fubfift, by lowering the Price of Goods. In order to this, it is necessary to find them a Place, whither they may conveniently, and at small

The French propose Cape Breton, as a Middle Place Goods between France, and their Colonies in America.

charges, carry the above mentioned Commodities, and take those of France, which they want. By that means, they would fave a Part of the Freight upon the One, as well as the other: And this Part for depositing of the Inhabitants, who either starve in Idleness, or run about the Woods in quest of Game, would be employed in Navigation. It may be objected, that this Method would take from France a Part of its Profit upon its Goods. But we anfwer, that it would by no means have that Effect; because the Freight which the Inhabitants of New France would hereby fave, would immediately be returned to the Old, by the greater Consumption of its Goods. For Example; those who are now idle, and have no other Covering but the Skins of wild Beafts, would then wear the Manufactures of France. fitter Place for the executing of this Defign,

of CAPE BRETON, &c.

fign, could not be found, than the Island C H A P. of CAPE BRETON.

IV.

LET it not be faid, that if this Island is supplied from Canada with a Part of those Goods, which it must otherwise have had from France, it is so much taken off from the latter: For, in the first place, the Answer made to the foregoing Objection, is likewise an Answer to this; since the Profit hereby made by Canada, will always return to the Kingdom of France: For New France can never do, without many Sorts of Goods from the Old. Secondly, It would be no Disadvantage to France, if it did not export fo much Corn, and other Provisions; fince the cheaper they are in the Country, the more Workmen it would have for its Manufactures.

This Island is situated in such a manner, that it naturally forms a Magazine, or Staple, between the Old and New France. It can surnish the first with Cod-Fish, Oils, Coals, Plaster, Timber, &c. of its own Growth and Product. It will surnish to New France the Goods of the Old at a much cheaper Rate, and save K 2

IV. upon her Goods, Besides that the Navigation from Quebec to Cape Breton would make good Seamen of a Sett of Men, who are not only of no Use, but a dead Weight upon the Colony.

ANOTHER confiderable Advantage, which this Establishment would procure to Canada, is, that it would be easy to fend fmall Vessels from thence, to fish for Cod (as well as Whales and Porpoifes, from which Oils are extracted) at the Mouth of the River of St. Laurence, and in the Gulph. The Vessels would be sure of a Market at Cape Breton; and might there take in such Goods from France as were wanted. Or else, a Vessel going from Quebec, laden with the Produce of Canada, might go to Cape Breton, load Salt there, for curing Fish to be caught in the Gulph, return to Cape Breton, and fell his Fish: And out of the Profits of these two Voyages, purchase French Goods there; which he would fell again, to Advantage in Canada.

WHAT formerly hindered the Canadians from fishing in the Gulph, and at the Entrance of the River St. Laurence, was, that they were obliged to carry their Fish to Quebec; where they could not get Money enough for it, to pay their Charges. Or, if they were fo lucky as to do that, the Profits were not large enough to engage many People in a Trade of that Nature.

CHAP. IV.

THE two Colonies affording thus a mutual Affistance to each other, and the Merchants becoming rich by this continual Commerce and Intercourse, they might affociate themselves in Enterprizes, equally advantagious to the one and the other, and confequently to the whole Kingdom; if it were nothing more than opening the Iron Mines, which are in so great abun- Iron Mines dance about the three Rivers. For, in in the River that Case, one might give some Rest to St. Laurence. those of France, as well as to its Woods: At least, we should be under no Necessity of fetching Iron from Sweden and Biscay.

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CHAP.

Moreover, the Ships which go from France to Canada always run a great Risk in their Return, unless they make their Voyage in the Spring: Whereas, the small Vessels of Quebec would run no Risk in going to Cape Breton, because they would take their own Time to do it; and they would always have experienced Pilots. What should hinder them from making two Voyages in a Year; and by that Means saving the French Ships the Trouble of ascending the River of St. Laurence, which would shorten their Voyage by one half?

But further: The Confumption in Canada of French Goods, is not the only Advantage which this Establishment would afford to this Colony; But it would have likewise an Opportunity of passing its Wines, Brandies, Linnens, Ribbons, Silks, &c. into the English Colonies. This Commerce would become very advantagious: For the English would furnish themselves at Cape Breton, and in Canada, not only with all the Goods they wanted on the Continent, where their Colonies are extreamly peopled;

but also for their Islands, and those of Chap. the Dutch, with which they traffick. By IV. these Means we should draw a great deal of Money out of those Colonies, even though the Entry of our Goods should not be openly permitted.

In a word, nothing would be more likely, than this Establishment, to engage the Merchants of France to employ People in the Cod-Fishery: For, as Cape Breton would furnish Canada with French Goods, those Vessels which were sent thither for Fish, would take a Cargo, confisting half in Goods, and half in Salt; so that they would make a double Advantage; whereas, at prefent, the French Ships, which go out a Cod-fishing, load nothing but Salt. Add to this; that the Augmentation of the Fishery would enable France to furnish Spain and the Levant with Fish; which would be a Means of bringing immense Sums into the Kingdom.

THE Whale Fishery (which is very Whale-fishery abundant in the Gulph, and towards the in the River Coasts of Labrador, and even in the River St. Laurence. of St. Laurence, as far as Tadoussac) might

CHAP. also be one of the most folid Advantages of this Settlement. Those Ships which go on this Fishery, should be loaden in France with Goods, which they should fell, or leave with the Merchants Correspondent at Cape Breton: And from thence, they should take in Casks, and go a-fishing; which, in this Place, is fo much the easier, being performed in Summer, and not in the Winter, as in the North of Europe, where the Ships must lie amongst the Flakes of Ice, in effect of which, the Whales are frequently loft, after they are In this manner, the Fishing-Veffels would gain upon their Merchandize brought to Cape Breton, and upon their Fish: And this double Profit would be made in less Time, and with less Risk, than that of the Whale-Fishery of the North: And the Money, which is carried to the Dutch for this Commodity, would remain in France.

> It has been already remarked, that the Island of Cape Breton can furnish of its own growth, Masts and Building-Timber to the Kingdom of France: It might likewise setch them from Canada; which would

would much encrease the reciprocal Commerce of the two Colonies, and would ease the Kingdom greatly in the Expence of building Ships. This Timber would be fetched from the Island, without our being obliged to buy it from Strangers: And what should hinder us from building Ships at Cape Breton, when every Thing necessary to it, may be had from Canada? The Materials would cost there much less than in France; and enable us to furnish other Nations with Shipping, instead of buying it from them.

In short, there is not in the World Cape Breton a furer Retreat for Ships, coming from a fure Retreat for whatever Part of America, than Cape Ships from Breton, in case of being chased, in case the West-of bad Weather, or of want of Wood, Water, or Provisions. Besides, that in Time of War, it would be a Place for Cruising, so as entirely to distress the Trade And very of all the British Settlements in America: proper for establishing And if we had Force enough (which it a Cruise. would be very easy to have) we might make ourselves Masters of the Cod-Fishery, by the means of a few small Frigates, which

The Importance and Advantage

CHAP. which should be always ready to fally out IV. of, and return into the Ports.

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But then, these Things are not to be done by Companies; who generally set their Minds wholly upon getting rich in a little time; and abandon, or neglect every thing which does not immediately return large Profits. They give themselves very little Trouble about making solid and lasting Settlements, or considering the Advantage of the Inhabitants; for whom it is not possible to have too great a Regard, if we would engage them to establish themselves in a new Colony, and promote their Interests therein.

THE above Memorial has pointed out to us so many of the Advantages, which this Nation may reap from this Important Conquest, that it has in a great measure cut short our Work in enumerating them. For we have little else to do, but to consider what Uses they made of this Island; and by turning their own Weapons against them, we may employ them with double Force; inasmuch as they are greatly weak-

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ened, we immensely encreased in Strength C H A P. by this Acquisition.

It is pretty remarkable, that the French Jesuit begins his Description of Cape Breton by averring, that after the Cession of Placentia and Acadia to the Crown of England, The French had no other Place, where they could dry their Fish in Safety, but the Island of Cape Breton: Wherefore they were driven by Necessity to make a Settlement there, and to fortify it.

This Axiom he repeats more than once in the Course of his History of New France: And, if it be a true one, it necessarily follows, that the French have now lost all the Advantages they had, or could propose to themselves, by the Possessino of that Island.

SINCE the Declaration of War, the French (it is presumed) have been debarred from fishing on the Banks of Newfoundland; as well as from drying and curing their Fish upon that Island. Whenever a Peace between the two Crowns shall be negotiated, it is not doubted but L 2

IV. all possibility of abusing, as they have done, the Privileges granted them by the Treaty of Utrecht.

Nothing could possibly have contributed fo much to the fecuring this Important Branch of our Trade, as our being Masters of Cape Breton; which is so situated, as to be either of inestimable Value, or inconceivable Detriment to the English Nation. It lies between 45 and 47 Degrees of Northern Latitude; and is feparated from Acadia, or New Scotland, only by the Narrow Streights of Canso. It shuts up, as it were, the Entrance into the Gulph, and consequently the River of St. Laurence. It is nearer the Great Fishing-Banks of Newfoundland, than any of the English Colonies, except the Island of Newfoundland itself; consequently, must effectually intercept or protect all Intercourse between our Colonies, and that Island. In a word, it is, in all Respects, so fituated, as if Providence intended it should make a Part of the British Dominions, as it really and in Fact is the Key to all the reft.

IF this be the Case, (and I believe no CHAP. true Subject of Great Britain will deny it to be the Case) can any Care be employed, any Money expended, that is too great, or too confiderable for the Preservation of it? But we have many other Inducements to the taking early and effectual Measures for the securing of Cape Breton to the Dominion of the Crown of England, as well from whatever Open Force may be brought against it, as from all the Arts and Intrigues of French Ministers. We have suffered once already by their Tricks; and that in the very Point now before us. Let us, therefore be aware of their playing the fame Game over again; And in order to it, let every one who is Master of the Subject, add to these few Hints all that is wanting to shew Our King, Our Ministers, Our Legislature and Our People, how immensely valuable this late Acquifition is; and how well it deserves to be nourished, protected and preserved.

MESS. RAUDOT have alledged, that Cape Breton can furnish of its own Growth, Codfish, Oyls, Coals, Plaster, Timber,

CHAP. Timber, &c. to the Kingdom of France.

IV. If that be true (and as I am informed, it is strictly so) then this is not a barren defart Land, affording scarce any Trees or Herbage, as represented by Salmon.

CHARLEVOIX fays it has many Lakes and Rivers: That there is a competent Number of Domestick Animals, which fubfift very well upon it: That Fruits and Grain grow well there: That Hemp and Flax are cultivated with Success; and that fishing and hunting are able to maintain the Inhabitants a good Part of the Year. This can never, furely, be called a Desart Place; nor can there be any Danger of starving upon an Island where there are fo many Resources. The Climate is in general reputed Healthy, notwithstanding the Frequency of Fogs there to be met with. Coals abound in the Island; and are procured at a small Expence. Timber, Stones, Marble and Plaster are every where to be had; fo that good Habitations may not only be built, but kept warm, when built. Laftly, Provisions cannot be faid to be fcarce, where there is Fish in abundance; and Beef, Veal, Mutton,

Mutton, Lamb, Kid, Goat's Flesh, wild C H A P. and tame Fowl, Corn, Herbs, Roots, IV. Fruit, &c. in tolerable Plenty. The Place, therefore, as to the Necessaries of Life, is not only habitable, but in some Degree comfortable: let us now see how it may be rendered more so.

MESS. RAUDOT (about thirty two Years ago) shewed the French Court the Expediency and Advantage of establishing a Staple or Magazine upon the Island of Cape Breton, for all Goods, &c. passing between Old and New France. Whether that Use was ever made of the Place, I am not informed: But, from the Arguments and Reasons given by them for such an Establishment, it is very evident that nothing could turn to greater Account. Hence, therefore we are furnished with a Hint, how to render this Island not only immediately useful, but also how to people, fortify, and enrich it in a short time, beyond all Poffibility of losing it again by Force. For where a Staple or Mart is established, thither, of Course, will resort great Numbers of Merchants, and Traders. These bring Money, CHAP. Money, and Money produces Industry: IV. By Money, Industry, Numbers of Peo-

ple, and Encouragement, what is too difficult to be effected? The most barren and defart Spot of Ground in the Universe, would in these Circumstances, be rendered fertile, as is evident in the Instance of the Island of Malta. Every Difficulty would be turned into some fort of Advantage; and what is now a Horrour, would be converted into a Beauty. As foon as the Country became rich, it would become better worth the preferving: Fortifications (if needful) would be added to those already made; and each Individual would contribute to its Preservation and Safety, with so much the greater Care and Zeal, as his own Interest therein would be of greater Concern. To me, therefore, it does not occur, that there is any material Objection

Cape Breton proposed as a Mart between America.

against our erecting this Island into a Sta-England and ple or Mart for all Goods and Traffick carried on between England and its American Colonies: But as I do not pretend to be so far Master of that Subject, as to foresee and obviate all the Objections that may lie against such a Scheme; so I **Shall**

the Hint; and submit the more particular Enquiry into it, to such as are better Judges of the Arguments for, and against it.

LET us now proceed to confider, in what manner, and to how great a Degree our Trade may be enlarged, protected, and promoted by the Addition of Cape Breton to the Dominions of the Crown of England.

We have above given a very particular Description of all the Ports and Harbours of this Island, and many of them appear (upon the Testimony of my French Author) to be some of the best in America. From hence it must follow, Cape Breton that if any of our Ships of War, or tra-a sure Retreat ding Vessels are under any Dissipulties in for our Ships. their Voyage to or from our Colonies, or any other part of the West Indies, here is a sure and safe Retreat. Whereas, we had not only the Dangers of the Seas to escape, but the Hazard of being taken at the Beginning, or End of a Voyage, as long as Cape Breton continued in the

Hands

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VI.

CHAP. Hands of our Enemies. For as I have before observed, it lies so, that it is next to impossible to fail to or from Nova Scotia, New England, New York, Pensilvania, Maryland, Virginia, Carolina and Georgia, without approaching very near to this Island, in the way to or from England. Messrs. Raudot have observed, that a few Frigates stationed here, would be fufficient to interrupt our Commerce with the Colonies *. What then should hinder us from stationing here as many Ships of War, as may be necessary, not only to protect our Trade, but to prevent any Danger of an Attack?

> * SALMON, Vol. III. p. 645. fays; Here are several Harbours, where the French Cruisers or Privateers may lie securely, and from hence interrupt the British Trade and Fisheries of New England, New Scotland, and Newfoundland, at their Pleasure. Nor do I see how it is possible for an English Squadron to protect them entirely upon such extensive Coasts. All that can be done in time of War, is to make Reprisals on the French by our Cruifers and Privateers, and as our Merchantmen and Fishermen are by much the most numerous; we must expect to be the greatest Sufferers, as we always were, in the late War; the French taking three Prizes, for one we took from them.

CHAP. HERE then are good Ports and Har-IV. bours: But not only fo, for Safety and Security from Winds and Enemies; but alfo fit for careening and refitting of Ships on any Occasion. Nay, it has been with Ships of all Credibility affirmed, that Ships of all Di-Dimensions, mensions and Force may be built here. here. For, whatever the Island itself does not afford, may, with great Ease, be supplied from some one of our own Colonies. The Streight of Canso or Passage of Fronsac is but a League over between Acadia and Cape Breton: And from the Bay of St Laurence, the English Colonies run in a Chain to the South-west, as far as to the Gulph of Florida.

But Ships may not only be built And cheaper here, but much cheaper built, than in than in Europe. Artificers, it is certain, may in Europe. fome measure be wanting for a time, but will soon be supplied, if ever the Work is set about in good Earnest. And why it should not, I do not perceive, when all the Materials are upon the Spot, and it is much easier, and less expensive

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CHAP. to carry Workmen thither, than to bring IV. these lumbering Goods to the Workmen.

The English By the Possession of Cape Breton we bereby become are become, or have it in our Power to Masters of all the Cod-fish-fishery. ery, which, as Charlevoix asserts, is of more value than the Mines of Peru.

HAVING in my Possession a Compu-Computation of the French tation of the French Fishery as it was ma-Fishery before naged before the present War, which is althe War. lowed by all good Judges of that Matter to be a Judicious, exact, and well calculated Piece; I should have inserted it here at full length, if I had not met with it in a Pamphlet lately printed at Exeter, entitled, An Accurate Journal and Account of the Proceedings of the New England Land Forces, during the late Expedition against the French Settlements in Cape Breton.

> In that Pamphlet, the Reader may fee the whole Calculation; from whence it appears, that the French made the Sum of 9491921. 10 s. Sterling Advantage from the fingle Article of the Fishery: And employed

employed 564 Sail of Ships; and 27500 C H A P. Men per Annum.

WHETHER the French ever attempted the Whale Fishery in the Bay and River of St. Laurence, I am not informed: But it does not appear to have any Place in this Calculation, and confequently remains to Whale-fishbe added to it. For, whether they made ing in the Bay and Riany Advantage of it, or not, it is evident, ver of St. from all the Accounts given of those Parts Laurence. of the World, that Whales not only abound in the Gulph, &c. but that the Fishing is performed there to much greater Advantage, and in a fafer Manner and Season, than in Greenland. I shall not here pretend to fet a Value upon this Branch of Whale Fishing; but only obferve, that the Bay is now open to us, and that the Trade of Whale Fishing may be carried on here with great Safety, and with incredible Gains. The French Trade up the River of St. Laurence, to Tadoussac, Quebec, Montreal, and their other Settlements upon that River, is hereby, in a great measure, if not totally obstructed, or may be so, if proper and vigorous Means are made use of.

CHAP.

SALMON, at the 646th Page of his IIId Volume, has these remarkable words:

"As to the French King's yielding up

"Cape Breton, and the other Islands in the

"Bay of St. Laurence, it must be consider
"ed, that if he had parted with these at

"the Treaty of Utrecht, he could no longer

"have had any other Communication with

"Canada, and New France, than what

"we saw sit: And it could scarce be ex
"pected he should exclude himself from all

"Commerce with his Colonies of New

"America."

In the King of France's Answer to a Memorial sent from England in June, 1712. N.S. Art. 3d. are the following Words; viz.

"As the perfect Understanding that the King proposes to establish between his Subjects, and those of the Queen of Great Britain will, if it please God, he one of the principal Advantages of the Peace; We must remove all Propositions capable of disturbing this happy Union. And, as Experience has made it too visible, that it

of CAPE BRETON, &c.

" was impossible to preserve it, in the Places CHAP. " possessed in common by the French and IV. " English Nations; So, this Reason alone " will suffice to binder His Majesty from " consenting to the Proposition of leaving " the English to possess the Island of Cape " Breton, in common with the French. " But there is still a stronger Reason against " this Proposition: As it is but too often " seen, that the most amicable Nations many " times become Enemies, it is Prudence in " the King to preserve to himself the Pos-" session of the only Isle, which will here-" after open an Entrance into the River of " St. Laurence; which would be absolute-" ly shut to the Ships of His Majesty, if " the English (Masters of Acadia and " Newfoundland) still possessed the Island of " Cape Breton in common with the French. " And Canada would be loft to France, " as foon as the War should be renewed " between the Two Nations; which God " forbid: But the most secure Means to " prevent it, is often to think that it may

HERE it is to be observed, that His Most Christian Majesty is extremely scrupulous

" happen."

1V.

CHAP. pulous on this Occasion, and apprehenfive of joining the Subjects of England and France in the same Island, least they should quarrel. And I believe he was right in his Notion, that the natural Antipathy between the two Nations is fuch, they cannot long agree together in the same Place. But it is to be observed, that when it suited the Circumstances of France to require a Part of Newfoundland along with the English, all these Scruples immediately vanished.

> HERE then, is the concurrent Testimony of French and English, Friends and Foes, that Cape Breton cuts off all Communication between Old France, and Canada or New France: And that it is the only Island which opens an Entrance into the River of St. Laurence; and Canada would be lost to France, whenever the War should be renewed if this Island was either taken, or given up.

MR. ASHLEY, in treating on the A-Computation of the English merican Trade, Part I. p. 18. tells us, Fishery. that from Newfoundland, New England and Nova Scotia, there are about Three Hundred

Hundred Sail of Ships, great and small, C H A P. or about Thirty Thousand Tons of Shipping employed annually in carrying Fish to Portugal, Spain, and Italy. These Ships employ about 2700 Seamen, and may by a Circulation of Trade, return to Great Britain about 260000 l. Sterling, per Annum, in this Article of Fish, besides Train-Oil and Whalebone; of which there may be imported into Great Britain to the Value of 40000 l. Sterling, per Annum, and upwards. And it is computed, that about two Thirds of these Advantages arise from the Fishery of Newfoundland only.

But this Computation is confined to the Fishery of Newfoundland chiefly; to the Trade to Portugal, Spain, and Italy, and to the Men employed on board the Ships only. Whereas I have seen another kind of Computation, which takes in the whole British Fishery in America; and extends to the Men employed in catching, curing, and drying the Fish ashore, as well as to the Seamen employed to carry it afterwards to different Ports. This Com- A second Computation putation runs thus; that the whole Quan-of the British tity of Fish caught by the English, may, Fishery in America.

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CHAP. at a round Reckoning, amount to about IV. 600000 Quintals a Year, which at Ten Shillings a Quintal, is worth 300000 l. And that there are from 14 to 15000 Men employed in the Trade.

It need not be here observed how much this Trade of the Fishery has been the Object of the Attention of the Nation, on all Occasions. It was one of the principal Points upon which the Treaty of Utrecht ought to have turned; though by the Management of Men at that Time in Power, it was rather turned against us, than to our Advantage. We look upon it as the chief Nursery for Seamen; and are so much interested in the other Benefits of it, that we annually send one or more of His Majesty's Ships of War, to protect our Subjects, and their Vessels, during the fishing Season.

Comparison between the French and English Fisheries. But how inconfiderable is this, in every Branch of it, when compared with what we have lately deprived the *French* of, and gotten into our own Hands! *Their Fishery* amounted (within a Trifle) to a Million, Sterling: Our's not to one Third of that

Sum.

Sum. They employed 27500 Men: We, CHAP. at most, 14 or 15000. They, 564 Sail of IV. Ships: We about 300, great and small.

THE Difference is extremely great: But the Advantage far exceeds it, when we Several Advantages come to confider, that this is so much ta-vantages ken out of the Hands of our Enemies, our being in and added to our own Trade; and ought the French therefore, to be accounted in a duplicate Fishery. Proportion of the real Sum.

But even this Advantage is inconsiderable, when confidered abstractedly, and separate from the other Advantages it brings along with it. Let every Reader weigh within himself the Value of a Trade, which affords a Nursery for near 30,000 additional Seamen. The pro- A Nursery viding for, or maintaining fuch a Number for 30000 of good and useful Subjects, not only at Seamen. no Expence, but to the immense Interest and Profit of the Nation, must, at least, give Pleasure to every well-disposed Mind; even though he is not immediately concerned in any other Benefit arifing from that Branch of Trade. The having that Fund of Seamen to supply our Fleets upon N 2 any

IV.

C H A P. any Emergency, must evidently appear to be a very great Advantage to all those who have either the Trade, the Religion, the Liberty, or the Safety of their Country at Heart. The Circulation of such an additional Sum annually, must produce such Effects, as will be felt by all Ranks and Degrees of Men, from the Throne to the Plow. And the depriving our Enemies of all the Advantages they reaped from this Branch of Trade must be such a Curb to their Ambition, and cast such a Damp upon all their Projects, that we cannot have any thing to fear from them, fo long as we continue to cut this Main Sinew of War.

Manufactures. The Climate of Cape Breton is, for a great Part of the Year, extremely cold: And the Business of Fishing is fuch, as exposes the People employed in it, to the damp, rainy, foggy, or frosty Air: Wherefore they must of necessity be well cloathed; which, consequently, makes a large Demand for our coarse Cloths, Flannels, Yarn and Worsted Hose, Caps, Mittens,

Mittens, &c. Whereby great Numbers C H A P. of poor, but industrious Families, now starving in the North and West of England, will be comfortably maintained, and enabled to pay their Rents, as well as rear their Children, and qualify them for some Branch or other of this Trade. Whereas, they are at this Instant, at a loss how to feed them, or what to do with them: To bring them up in Idleness, does not suit the Temper of the English: To teach them a declining Trade, affords very little Prospect of Success: And in these Countries, they are not able to teach them any other, having been educated univerfally in one or other Branch of it. Wherefore, some have been almost tempted to put in execution Dean Swift's Scheme for providing for their Children. But by the Conquest of Cape Breton, there arises a Demand for all Kinds of Woollen Goods, fufficient to cloath and keep warm 30000, at least, additional Subjects, concerned in the Fishery. And how many will be required to inhabit the Island, and to garrison the Fortifications, I leave others to compute: But be they more, or be they less, they must likewise be cloathed, and

The Importance and Advantage

C H A P. and add to the Demand for our Woollen IV. Manufactures.

Building many more Ships.

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Confumption ber Sail-Cloth, and Cordage.

THE building, and employing of 564 additional Ships, will prove the Maintenance of feveral Thousands of Families. of Iron, Tim- What a Confumption must this make of Timber, Iron, Sail-Cloth Cordage, and other Materials? How many poor People must live by the Manufacture of these feveral Articles; for some of which there will be a repeated Demand every Voyage?

> WE shall shew hereafter, when we come to treat of the Affairs of Canada, that each of these Advantages may, and and must be greatly improved by encreafing our Commerce and Intercourse with the Indians and Savages, who have hitherto dealt with the French for many Commodities, which they will now find it difficult to furnish them withal.

Letter from the London Courant.

I SHALL close this Chapter with a Paragraph or two, out of the London Courant of September the 4th, 1745. Wherein after speaking of the Conquest of Cape Breton, he fays; "The next

" Step to be taken in order to make CHAP. " our Conquest lasting, secure, and " valuable, is to drive the French from " Canada; which may now with great "Ease be effected. That done; they " would have no Pretence for coming in-" to those Seas; and the Fishing Coast " would be left entirely to ourselves, from " the Bank of Newfoundland, to the South-" ermost Part of Georgia; which reaches " near five hundred Leagues, Bays ex-" cepted; and includes the Cod, Her-" ring, and Mackarel, two Seafons, with "Whale and Salmon Fishing. Besides, " if Canada, should come into our hands, " all the Fur-Trade falls in, of Courfe, "This would be a Means of living in " perpetual Amity with all the Tribes of Indians; and greatly diffress the French " Sugar Colonies, by preventing them " from Necessaries; such as Provisions, " Lumber, &c. which are fent in great " Quantities from hence. This would " also infallibly put a Stop to their Build-" ing any more Ships there; either for " the King's or the Merchants Service; " and hinder many Masts and other NaCHAP. "val Stores from being sent from thence IV. "to France, for the Future.

"THE feveral Articles, last mentioned, added to the great Increase of our
Trade from these Acquisitions, would
be infinitely more valuable to US, than
either Mexico or Peru: especially, if
we consider, how many thousand Hands
will be employed, how many Families
will be maintained, how many large
Fortunes will be acquired, and how
much our Navigation will be augmented hereby.

"THE Increase of our Fishery alone, (if no further Advantages were to arise from the taking of Cape Breton) is sufficient to recommend the Preservation of it, to our Care and Consideration: As it will, in a short space of time, prove a certain Method to improve our Commerce; to enlarge our Navigation; to strengthen our Navy; and thereby, to secure our own Coasts, from all presented in tending Invaders."

ONE Paragraph more. I cannot help inferting, which is taken from His Majesty's

jesty's Speech to his Parliament on the CHAP.

14th of January, 1745.

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"The great Advantages which we have Extract of received from our Naval Strength, in His Majesty's Speech to his protecting the Commerce of my Subjects, Parliament. and intercepting and distressing that of our Enemies, have been happily experienced by the former, and severely felt by the latter. I am, therefore, determined to be particularly attentive to this important Service; and to have such a

" Fleet at Sea, early in the Spring, as may be sufficient to defend ourselves, and ef-

" feetually to annoy our Enemies.

So Gracious a Declaration of so Glo-Effects of rious a Resolution, cannot but warmly af-that Speech. feet the Heart of every true Briton, and Well-wisher to his Country. The proper, and most natural Protection and Defence of these Kingdoms, and the Dominions subject to the British Crown, are (beyond a Doubt) to be sought, and found in a sufficient Fleet; which may answer all the Purposes of protecting our Coasts, and Dominions; of securing our own Trade; and of annoying and difturbing.

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CHAP. sturbing, if not destroying the Trade of our Neighbours, and Rivals, as well as Enemies. Let this be extended to whatever the National Exigencies may require; the Money, paid on this Occasion, still remains amongst us: And as it circulates through the Hands of every Individual; may rather deserve the Name of a Benefit, than a Detriment to the Subject. Many other Advantages, arifing from this manner of carrying on a War, particularly a War with France and Spain, might here be enumerated and enlarged upon: But as this is in some Measure, foreign to my Purpose; I shall only add that nothing could fo effectually enable His Majesty, to put in practice the Resolution above quoted, in an easier and less expenfive Way, and to the Great Joy of his Subjects, than the keeping Possession of. and by all means strengthening and improving, Cape Breton.

CHAP. V.

Some Accounts of Canada, and the Affairs of the English Colonies, in its Neighbourhood; particularly of Nova Scotia.

THE London Courant quoted above, CHAP. proposes (as the next Step to the V. Conquest of Cape Breton) the driving the French out of Canada, which, he fays, may with great Ease, be done. Under the Name of Canada, the French comprehend all that Extent of Territory, which they otherwise call New France. Thus Canada in their Maps, is very differently laid down, from what it is in ours. For they call that Canada, which we call Acadia; and that, Acadia, which we call Nova Scotia. But it is obvious. that they have on all Occasions, changed not only the Names of Places, but even their Boundaries and Limits; just as it best suited their present Conveniency, or 0 2 future

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V.

CHAP. future Views. They, of late Years, greatly enlarged their Limits prescribed and setled by the Treaty of Utrecht, for their fishing, and drying Fish at Newfoundland. And in the Year 1700, they pretended that New France extended itself along the Coast of New England, as far as the River Kinibequi. If (as no doubt they intend) any Stress is to be laid upon the Maps lately published by Bellin, and annext to Charlevoix's History, there is scarce any Part of America, excepting Mexico and Peru, which they do not in one Shape or another lay claim to. But as all Titles but that of Conquest, are, for the prefent at least annihilated; let us enquire, First, how far such a thing as the reducing of Canada to the Obedience of the Crown of England, is, in itself, practicable. And fecondly, what would be the Advantages, arifing to the Crown of Great Britain, in case that Reduction were happily effected.

IT is evident, from the foregoing Ac-The Conquest of Cape Bre-count of the Situation of Cape Breton, ton, a leadthat the taking that Island out of the ing Step to the Reduction Hands of the French, has or may, in a of Canada. great

great Measure, cut off the Communica- CHAP. tion between Old France, and its Possessions in and about the Bay and River of St. Laurence. It may likewise be added, that the French Trade to the Missipii may be greatly curbed, if we establish a Cruise at Cape Breton sufficient to protect our own Trade in those Parts, and to annoy that of our Enemies. For though that River empties itself into the Gulph of Mexico, yet their Ships, in going thither and returning from thence, must run the risk of falling in with some of our Cruisers. We have above represented, that this may not only eafily be done, but that it would, in many Respects, be for the Advantage of Great Britain to build Ships there, and equip them with every thing necessary for their going to Sea. For as to Cannon, Cordage, and Sail Cloth, if they cannot be eafily had at Cape Breton, or if it be judged improper that they should, they may, with great Ease, and to good Account, be sent from hence.

MESS. RAUDOT have, in their Memorial to the Court of France, laid it down

V.

CHAP. as a Maxim not to be contested, that New France cannot long fubfift, without Supplies and Support from the Old. And by blocking up this Passage, we effectually cut off all those Necessary Supplies: which must not only reduce them to great Extremities, but be the probable Cause of the Defection of the Indians from them to Us. For as they cannot any longer fupply them with Goods, take theirs off their Hands, nor make them the usual, and expected Presents; these People will not, they cannot long depend upon a Nation, which can neither trade with them, gratify them, nor contribute to their Support. Wherefore I look upon the Reduction of Canada * as the

^{*} This is not so very difficult a Task as it may at first Sight seem to be, if the the following French Author is to be credited. He quotes a Letter from Monsieur de Vaudreuil Chief Governour of New France, to Monsieur de Pontchartrain Premier Minister, in the Year 1714. " Canada (says the for-" mer) has actually in it but 4480 Inhabitants, cac pable of bearing Arms; and the 28 Companies, " which the King maintains there amount to no more than 628 Men. This handful of Men is scattered throughout an Extent of 100 Leagues of Country. The English

the Natural (I had almost said necessary) C H AP. effect of reducing Cape Breton. Provided always, that we keep such a Force of Ships of War there, as may be able to protect the Place itself; and at the same time to furnish a Number of Cruisers sufficient to preserve the Dominion of those Seas, and to intercept the French Trade.

THE better to induce us to attempt the Reduction of Canada, let us now fee how fome of our own Colonies (particularly that of Nova Scotia) are endangered by this Neighbourhood, or for want of taking proper Measures for peopling and protecting that Colony.

Nova Scotia lies West of Cape Breton; Situation of from which this Province is divided, only Nova Scotia.

66 p. 150.

[&]quot; English Colonies, have, at least, 60000 Men capable of bearing Arms: And it cannot be doubted,

but on the first Occasion of Rupture, they will make

an Effort to possess themselves of Canada; especially, if we restect, that the City of London (amongst the

[&]quot;Articles of Instructions given to its Representatives)

[&]quot; insists upon it, that Enquiry be made, why pre-

ceding Ministers yielded to France Canada, and the Island of Cape Breton." Vide Charlevoix, Vol. IV.

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CHAP. by the Narrow Streights (or as the Seamen

ball it) Gut of Canfo. It is fituated between the Latitudes 44 and 50; and stretches from Canfo to Cape Sable, near an hundred Leagues from East to West. It is reputed the finest Province in all North America for its Harbours; one of which is to be met with on the South Coast, at almost every two Leagues distance; and are, many of them, fine, large, navigable Rivers for Ships of Burden. Its Its Produce. Coasts abound with Variety of Fish, such as Cod, Mackarel, and Herrings, &c. Its Rivers with Salmon, Trouts, Eels, &c. The Land is covered with Ash, Oak, Pines, and Elm, fit for Naval Stores, and for Building-timber, or any other Uses. The Woods are stock'd with Wild-Fowl of different Sorts; and with Deer, Beaver,

> and other Furs. The Earth is here full of Coal, Lime, Stone, and Plaster; and, where it is cleared, is very fit for Agriculture and Pasture. From such an Ac-

> count of this Province, it is natural to

imagine it is well peopled, and properly encouraged: But, if I am rightly informed, there is not fo much as one English Family fettled there, beyond the Walls of

This Prowince not peopled.

the only Garrison in this extensive Coun- C H A P. try; though it has been upwards of thirty Years in the Possession of the Crown of Great Britain. Annapolis Royal is, as we Annapolishave faid, the only Garrison in all this Royal, the Province; and has only one Regiment, or in this Prorather Part of one in it. It is quite by vince. itself, and very remote from all Assistance, in case of any Emergency. This Garrison, fmall as it is, is nevertheless, a constant, large and dead Expence to the Crown; which Expence might be greatly eased, if not totally taken off, were proper Measures taken to render this Province populous and flourishing. It must surely be allowed, that no Part of this New World is more capable of being eafily and foon put into a thriving Condition, than this. I am told, that it would fubfift, and provide well for 200000 Families and upwards. And, if Scheme for fuitable, though fmall Encouragement were peopling it. given, it is not doubted but fuch a Number of Protestants from abroad might be procured, and brought to fettle there, as would fet the Work a-going; and, in a short Time, answer the Ends proposed. Instead of that, the Inhabitants of this Province are now made up of French and P Savages

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Danger of its not being peopled.

CHAP. Savages only. The former finding the Sweets of such a Settlement, chose to stay there, when, at the Peace of Utrecht, Nova Scotia was yielded to the English. They are fince greatly multiplied and encreased; and call themselves Neutral French. They have, ever fince the Peace, had a constant Intercourse of Trade and Marriages, &c. with the Inhabitants of Cape Breton; and, as well on Account of the Affinity with them, as on Account of their Religion, they must be supposed to be more in their Interests, than in Our's. It is computed, that there are not less than 10000 Men, capable of bearing Arms in this Province; who, at the Instigation of their Priests, will at any time be ready to join in a Confederacy to strip us of it. These Neutral French trade with the Savages in the Eastern Parts of New England, for Furs, Castors, Feathers, &c. to a great Value. They export Beef, Pork, Butter, Grain, Furs, Fish, &c. to a confiderable Value: Whereas, were this Province rightly managed, by filling it with Protestants from abroad, or wherever else they might be had by Encouragement, it would, at least, bear the Expence of its own

own Garrisons, if not bring in a hand- CHAP. fome Revenue to the Crown, or fome V. of its Dependants. Let us suppose for a while, that these Neutral French (spirited up by their Priests, or excited by Revenge for the late Losses and Disappointments of their Kindred and Countrymen at Cape Breton) should join with the Savages to possess themselves of this large and rich Province, what Force have we there to oppose them, confidering the Extent of Territory to be defended? Or should France fend thither three or four thousand Men; what should hinder them (being once joined by the prefent Inhabitants) from making themselves entire Masters of the Country? Perhaps it may be answered; that a good Fleet at Sea, would prevent their landing: But where there are fo many Creeks and Bays, besides the Rivers and Harbours above-mentioned (each of which, the late Possessions of Cape Breton are well-acquainted with) this is a Thing much easier said, than done. We have found by fatal Experience at home, how impossible it is effectually to guard a Coast, and hinder an Enemy from landing. And we are at this Day (to our Sorrow) convince

V.

CHAP. vinced, how difficult a thing it is, to drive an Enemy out of a Country, when it has once got Footing in it. The French, when they quitted Cape Breton, were bold enough to declare, that as foon as the Year of Capitulation was out, they would return, and get Possession again of the Lands they had loft, or of some other, as good, in Lieu of them. Some may, perhaps, fay, that if it be so easy a thing to take this Province, it must be as easy to retake it: But the Case is widely different; for, in the first place, it is a less expensive, and less hazardous Measure, to keep a Possession, than to recover it. Secondly; whenever the French come, they are fure to be supported by their Kindred, Countrymen, and Affociates in Religion: Whereas, we are equally fure of being abandoned by them. But if Canada were once reduced to the Subjection of the Crown of England, the Case would then be quite altered. The Power we should then have in that Fart of the World, would strike a Dread into our Enemies, as well French as Savages: And without it, the Difficulty of preferving Nova Scotia, will, I am afraid, be greater than is at present imagined. The Necessity

Necessity of preserving this Province will CHAP. appear the greater, when we confider that the French would in the other Case become not only very near Neighbours to our other Colonies, but, whenever a War breaks out, put us as it were between two Fires. Add to this, that the Timber for all Naval Uses, begins to fail in the Eastern Parts of New England; which cannot be fo well supplied (if supplied at all) by any other Province than that of Nova Scotia, or by Canada, if we keep the former, and reduce the latter. We have before remarked, that along these Coasts the greatest Fishery in the known World is carried on: And, without being in poffession of the Country, it would be next to impossible to continue the Fishery; as the Enemy would be constantly annoying us from their Ports. Whereas, by the Reduction of Canada, not only this Province of Nova Scotia, but also all the English Settlements in America, would be enlarged and protected: For the French Settlements, and the Indian Nations run all along the Back of ours, and subject us to daily Incursions from thence, into New England.

The Importance and Advantage

CHAP. England, New York, Penfilvania, Maryland V. and Virginia, just as it best suits their Opportunity and Advantage.

IIO

But, whilst we are contriving Schemes for annoying our common Enemies, I am extreamly forry to find there is a Set of Men among us, who by their Greediness after Profit (for I will not put it upon any worse Principle) contrive it so, that the greatest Part of their Losses falls upon ourselves. This is a Management so destructive of every Project for distressing the Enemy, that I think it proper to infert in this Place a Letter printed in the General Evening Post, of Tuesday, January 21, 1745-6. This Letter puts the Business of infuring in London of French Ships, and their Commodities, in fo strong a Light, that I think it is a pity it should not have more Chances than one, of being univerfally read and confidered. I shall therefore transcribe it word for word, as all Abbreviations must be an Injury done it.

" To the Printer, &c.

CHAP. V.

«SIR,

AM extremely concerned that the Letter from Publick Joy for so Important an Evening Post,

" Event as the taking and destroying such

" a Number of Martinico Ships, should

" have any Allay. I am told, that the

" Benefit arifing from it to England, will,

" in a great measure, be lost; and the

" Mischief it would have done to France,

" will, in some degree, be repaired, by the

" Ships being infured on our Exchange to

" almost their full Value. I shall not en-concerning the Insurance ter into the Consideration, how mean, of French

"how fcandalous it is to carry on an under-Ships on the

" hand Traffick with those who are de Exchange of London.

" clared the open, and who appear the

" inveterate Enemies of our Country;

" but will view this Practice, as a Point

" of Interest; and, whether it is bene-

" ficial to the Community, or not.

" Before the Commencement of the

" War, our Complaints were loud and

" general, that the French Trade, espe-

CHAP. "cially the West-India, was grown to "fuch an Heighth, as not only to hurt, what endanger our Own. The great " Number of their Ships taken, is a fuf-" ficient Evidence, if there were no other, " of the Justice of those Complaints. " What then was our Business at entering " into the War? Not to interrupt, not to " weaken only, but to destroy as effec-"tually as possible the very Being of their "Trade. We have given them several "Blows, under which they have stag-" gered; under which they must have " fallen, if they had not been held up by " our Insurance. So many Captures must " have occasioned such Bankruptcies among " their Merchants in France, that these " could not have fent fo many Ships to " America; and the Planters there could " not have been supported.

"The only Argument for infuring the Enemy's Property is, that the Money paid here for it, is so much clear Gain: But then it must be supposed that their Ships are not taken; if they are, instead of Gaining, we lose by it.
But whether they are, or not, their Trade

"Trade is still kept alive by our means. CHAP. " It is evident that France, notwithstand-" ing her bluftering, has not fufficient "Funds to promote her Schemes upon " the Continent, and protect her Trade " at the same time. Is it not natural " then for her King to fay, I will pursue " the first, and let the English themselves " take Care of the last. Whilft this is in-" fured; whilft this is nursed up by them, it may languish, but it will never be de-" froyed. To corroborate what I have " advanced, I shall offer two Matters of " Fact to the serious Consideration of eve-" ry Briton. 1. The French in order to " prop their finking Trade, and for want " of Ships and Seamen, have lately per-" mitted the Dutch to load in their Su-" gar Colonies. 2. These Dutch Bottoms, with French Property, have had a " great deal of Insurance paid upon " them in LONDON.

" No Man can have a greater Regard " for the Character of a fair Merchant, " than I have; I think him one of the " most useful Members of Society; but " I cannot help making an Observation Q

CHAP. " or two, viz. that no One can carry " on fuch a Traffick, without holding " directly or indirectly, a Correspondence, "with the Enemies of his Country. " That it is natural for any Man to wish, "the Ships which he infures may purfue " their Voyage with Safety, and to take " proper Measures that they may. That " it is easy then for him, by his Corres-" pondence, to convey Intelligence of " the Destination of our Fleets, the time " of their Sailing; and whatever else may " be necessary for the Enemy to know. -" No Gains can counterballance fuch a " Mischief: All the Efforts which our "Government can make to destroy their "Trade, may hereby be rendered inef-" fectual.—I am far from thinking that " every Man who subscribes to such Insu-" rance, would be guilty of conveying Intel-" ligence to the Enemy: But as the Temp-" tation is great; it is probable some of " them may and it is furely wife, to pro-" vide against such a Probability.

> "IT will perhaps be faid, that if the "English do not secure to themselves she "Profits arising from the Insurance of the "French Ships, the Dutch will. In An

" fwer to this, I ask if the Profits are C H A P. " certain, and Great, why are the French " fo willing to give, and the Dutch fo " ready to part with them to Us? The " only Reasons why France applies to " England for it, must be, because she " cannot procure the whole Infurance " which she wants from Holland; be-" cause she gets it here on cheaper "Terms; or because she secures more " effectually the Navigation of her Ships. " In either of the former Instances, we " give her Advantages, which it is impo-" litick to give: In the last, we lend her " Affistance to destroy Ourselves. - How-" ever, though the Profits may be great, "this is the fingle Question. Is infuring " the Enemy's Property, upon the whole, " for the Publick Interest? This is the " Center, to which every Branch of Trade " should point: And every Line which " does not lead to it, should be thrown " out of the Compass.

"To view the whole then, in this " fingle Light, I will endeavour clearly " and shortly to state the Case, abstract-" ing even the Confideration of our keep-

The Importance and Advantage

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CHAP. " ing their Trade alive. The French, " by infuring leave no more with us than " the Profit of the Insurer; after he has " made up his Account of Loss and "Gain: Whereas, on the other hand, " if we suppose that all Insurance of the " Enemy's Property had ceased from the " Beginning of the War, the Nation had " gained what we have taken from " them, over and above what they have " taken from us; exclusive of what we " might have further taken, if no Intelsi ligence had been conveyed to them: " But Thanks to the Infurers! Our Enee mies will tell the rest with Pleasure. " As I think this a Matter of the highest Importance, I don't doubt but our Leec giflature will give the earliest Attention ec to it.

"SINCE we are in Possession of Cape Breton, this is the favourable Criss, if there can be one, for ruining the French Trade, and establishing our own; if we will but put a total Stop to our Insuring of their Property; and if we will continue pushing them, where we find they are so weak."

THOUGH this Letter is fomewhat CHAP. foreign to my Purpose; yet I could not help inferting it, as it feems to be written by a Person of Temper, Good Manners, and found Judgment; By One who is conversant in Trade, and a Well-wisher to his Country. It is great Pity he did not deliver his Sentiments fooner; for I have heard the Practice often, and long ago complained of. The last Article or Paragraph however, fufficiently evinces what we have been labouring to establish, viz. that the Possession of Cape Breton is the thing, and the only thing that can enable us effectually to destroy the Power of France, and turn it to our own Benefit. I am not one of those who are for enlarging our Territories abroad; for the fewer we have, the better we shall be able to attend to their Encouragement and Protection. But as this Nation is not supposed to subsist without Trade, so it is necessary to take all Measures to increase and defend it; especially, when that may be done, at the Expence of our Enemies. Wherefore I again repeat it, that the Conquest of Cape Breton is by far the greate/t

The Importance and Advantage

C H A P. est Advantage we have hitherto gained by ·V. the War, and it is to be hoped we shall not lose any Opportunity of improving that Advantage,

> BEFORE I finish this Chapter, it may not be amiss to add in this Place some of the Mischiefs or Disadvantages attending the Island of Cape Breton, whilst it was possessed by the French; which are now entirely obviated, and may for the future be prevented, or rather will naturally cease, as long as we keep Possession thereof. These Disadvantages arise from a destructive Clandestine Trade carried on between our Settlements on the Continent of America, and the French at Cape Breton, to the great Detriment of Trade in general, and to the Support of our common Enemy.

A Clandestine Trade formerly carried Settlements and Cape Breton,

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THIS Clandestine Trade, carried on from most of the English Settlements onbetween our between Virginia, and Nova Scotia, confisted in the furnishing of Cape Breton with Warlike Stores and Provisions of the Plantation Produce. For this Purpose, near an Hundred Sail of decked Vessels

were every Summer employed in transport- C H A P. ing Tar, Pitch, Turpentine, Rosin, Timber, Plank and Boards: As also Beef, Pork, Butter, Cheefe, Bread, Flower, Cyder, Apples, Onyons, Corn, Horses, live Cattle of all Kinds, and great Quantities of Cabinet Makers Goods, to our Rivals in Trade. By these means the French not only constantly supplied their Fishery in this Neighbourhood, but also had such a Surplussage, that from hence they supplied their West Indian Islands with these Articles. Nay the English many times fo glutted the Markets, that they were frequently obliged to fell at Cape Breton, at a Price under what the Goods had cost them at home: And in this Case their Advantage was to be made on their Smuggling Goods into our Colonies at their Return. For these People were chiefly paid in Brandy, Wine, Oyl, Sailcloth, Cordage, Iron, Rum, Molasses, Sugar, Coffee, Indigo , Drugs, East India Goods, &c. the Manufactures, Product, or Trade of Old and New France; which they fold again clandestinely among our own Colonies at their Return. This double Advantage was fo great to the French, that though

CHAP. though the Traffick between the two Nations was feemingly prohibited; yet they not only winked at, but encouraged it; as they have always done the Exportation of Wool from hence. Hereby is fully verified (by the Event) that Part of the Memorial prefented by Messes Raudot, wherein they alledge, That by these means we should draw a great deal of Money out of those Colonies, even though the Entry of

* Vide p. 71. our Goods skould not be openly permitted. * It has been affirmed that our Clandestine Traders went so far, as to Barter Warlike Stores and Provisions, and even Vessels and Ships of all Dimensions, from 50 to 400 Tons, against the Commodities abovementioned, which they had from the French; several of which Articles, viz. the meanest of their Rum, Molasfes, and Sugar, the French would have found no other Vent for, had not our People thus taken them off their Hands: they must otherwise have been let out to run down their Streets; as has been (if I am rightly informed) fully proved at the Bar of the House of Commons. Now from this Practice, it is evident, that the French were supplied with Provisions,

visions, &c. for carrying on their Fishery, CHAP. at a much cheaper, eafier, and more certain Rate, than they otherwise could be: By which means, they were enabled to underfell us in that Commodity, whereever they came.

This Island was likewise the Place of Rendezvous for all the French Ships that passed to and from Old France; and the East as well as West Indies, the South Seas, or on any occasion croffing the Western Ocean. Their Ships in like manner, coming home from any of their Sugar Islands, and being obliged to stand to the North-west, for the Benefit of the Gulph Stream and North Shore Winds, could venture to leave their Ports with little or no Provisions, being affured of finding Abundance at Cape Breton, thus clandeftinely brought thither from our Colonies as above mentioned.

THE RESIDENCE OF THE PARTY OF T

CHAP. VI.

A Summary Relation of the Siege of Lewisburg: With a short Account of Mr. William Vaughan's particular Behaviour in the Expedition of Cape Breton.

CHAP.

VI.

I HAD here defigned to have given the Publick the best Accounts I could have picked up, of the Siege of Lewisburg, and the taking the Island of Cape Breton: But, having met with the Pamphlet before quoted, containing a Journal of those Transactions, I shall not here trouble the Reader with a literal Repetition of what therein seems to be pretty exactly done, and by Authority; but only give a Summary Account of the Whole, and add some Circumstances, which, though not totally omitted, are there but lightly touched upon.

The short time taken for putting the Enterprize in execution.

IT is observable, from the beforementioned Journal, that never was an Enterprize of so much Difficulty, Danger, and and Expence, carried on with fo great C H A P. Zeal, Expedition, and Intrepidity. They took but feven Weeks to execute this Important Undertaking: And in eleven Days more the whole Armament was affembled at Canfo, which is but 20 Leagues from the Fortress of Lewisburg.

THEY would have lost no Time at Canso, had not the Enemy's Shores been covered with Ice, which made the approaching them impracticable: And which Accident gave Time for their being joined Detained at by Commodore Warren's Squadron, which Canjo by Ice on the Goafts happened on the 22d and 23d of April 3 of Cape that is, eighteen or nineteen Days after the Breton. New England Fleet, &c. had arrived at Canso. During this Interval, the New England armed Sloops cruifed about Cape Breton, to prevent Intelligence or Provifions being carried to the Enemy: And had the good Fortune to meet with, attack, and drive back to France, a French Man of War of thirty Guns, with three hundred Seamen, fifty Marines and publick Dispatches on board. Had this Ship got into Lewisburg, she would have thrown a strong Reinforcement into the Garrison.

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CHAP. VI.

Difficulties
the Troops
underwent,

THE Difficulties which attended the Landing of the Troops on a rough, rocky Shore, with a great Surf continually beating upon it, can scarce be conceived by such as are not conversant in Affairs of this Nature. And when the Hardships they were exposed to after landing, come to be considered, the Behaviour of these Men will hardly gain credit. They went a-shore wet; had no Cloaths to cover them; were exposed in this Condition to cold, soggy Nights; and yet chearfully underwent these Difficulties for the sake of executing a Project they had voluntaily undertaken.

particularly in drawing Cannon, &c. through deep Morasses.

Notwithstanding these Disadvantages, great Numbers were employed as Scouts to scour the Country, and prevent Surprizes of any Sort. But the most dissidult Task of all others, and what most surprized the French Garrison, was the drawing the Cannon and Mortars for two Miles through deep Morasses and Bogs, and over rough, craggy Rocks. Horses, or Oxen, could not be employed here; nor Wheel-carriages of any Sort. The Business,

Business, therefore, was all done by the CHAP. indefatigable and incredible Labour and Fatigue of these poor Men; who, after the Sweats occasioned by their Day's Work, were scarcely protected from the Injuries of the cold, foggy Nights; as they had but few Tents, and those very bad ones, to cover them. These Fatigues threw the Men into Fluxes; of which, and other occasional Disorders, there were above one Thousand five Hundred fick at a time; by which means the Duty fell the harder on those that were well; and these, without murmuring, nay, with Joy and Chearfulness, betook themselves to every laborious and hazardous Discharge of their Duty. The Cannon and Mortars therefore were hawled by Strength of Arms on Sledges over these Bogs, Morasses, and rocky Hills: The Provisions and Ammunition, &c. were carried over them by the Men, on their Backs; both which Methods were attended with fuch incredible Labour and Difficulty, that Men of less Refolution, or less Experience in removing Weights, would scarce have attempted the Thing; never have executed it.

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IT appears, by the Journal beforementioned, that the whole Number of Troops engaged in this Expedition, did not exceed four Thousand. Of these one Thousand five Hundred were fick at one time: Many Parties were fent out as Scouts, to oppose the Enemy affembled in the Country: Numbers were necessarily employed in erecting Batteries in Places very difficult of Access, particularly a Battery near the Light-House: Yet, notwithstanding all these Drains and weakening Reductions of the Troops, it was resolved to have made a general Attack, both by Sea and Land; and all necessary Preparations for executing this Resolution were made: When, on the 16th of June, the Enemy, finding the New England Troops determined to conquer, or die, and perceiving the many Advantages they had already gained, fent out a Flag of Truce, defiring Time to confider upon Articles of Capitulation. Time was granted till the next Morning, and Articles were agreed, Hostages exchanged, and on the 17th of June the City and Fortresses were furrendered; which was just forty-eight Days

Days from the first landing of Troops on CHAP. the Island of Cape Breton.

It is scarce to be credited, that in all these difficult, hazardous, and desperate Labours, Fatigues, Attacks, Skirmishes, &c. the New England Troops lost no more than about an hundred of their Men; whilst the Enemy, who fought a great deal more to Advantage, being frequently under Cover, all ways less exposed, lost about three hundred Men.

THE Journal printed at Exeter is exact, as to the Days and Times of every particular Circumstance, during the Siege; and (to give it the greater Weight) is figned by the General, one Brigadier, one Colonel, and two Lieutenant-Colonels; all which were prefent on this Occasion: The Truth therefore of the Relation cannot, I think, be called in question, as far as it goes. But some Particulars are (as I have faid above) omitted; which, without derogating from any other Person's Merit, may, I hope, be mentioned here, in Justice to the Conduct and Behaviour of a Person hitherto unknown to, confequently not taken CHAP. taken Notice of by the Publick: I mean VI. Mr. William Vaughan, a Gentleman of Damariscotta, in the Province of the Massachusets Bay, New England; with whom, I am persuaded, neither the Governors, nor any other Person will dispute the Honour of having revived, at least, if not of being the original Mover and Projector of this grand and fuccessful Enterprize. I think, I am not wrong in afferting, that this Gentleman was one of the first Movers of it to William Shirley, Esq; Governor of the Chief Province of New England, viz. that of Massachusets. But, if he was not the original Mover of the Scheme, I can with great Assurance affirm, that through his indefatigable Zeal and Labour in the Cause, and by the Intelligence he gave the Government of New England, that the French were defenceless at Cape Breton; that the People of New England were disposed to undertake any thing for the Good and Honour of the Crown of England; and by verifying these Assertions, by Memorials and Testimonials, figned by People of the greatest Rank and best Repute in those Provinces: He, I say, by these Means revived a Project, which the General 4

General Assembly had absolutely rejected as C H A P. hazardous and impracticable: And, when he had brought it through the Two Houses there, omitted nothing that might in any Shape conduce to the providing of Men, Money, or any other Thing necessary for carrying the Scheme into Execution.

Mr. VAUGHAN was the Man who conducted the first Column of the New England Troops, at their first landing, through the Woods, to within a Mile of the City, and to a fair View of it. He would have perfuaded the Officers and Men to have marched up directly to a Place where they would have been covered by a Rifing-gound, and not have been above two hundred Yards from the Town : But whilft this Proposal was debating, the Enemy, perceiving the approach of our Troops, fet fire to about forty Houses and Magazines; which might not only have been faved, but have formed a Lodgement for our Men; for some time, at least.

THIS Gentleman was the Person who proposed to General Pepperel the sending

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CHAP. of four hundred Men to the North-east VI. of the Harbour, to seize the Enemy's Houses and Stores, at about a Mile's distance from the Grand Battery. He not only proposed this Expedient, but offered himself to conduct that Party. The Proposal was accepted, and the Business effected according to the Scheme laid. Vide Journal, p. 12. May 2d.

This Gentleman was the Person that took Possession of the Enemy's Grand Battery, deserted (as is supposed) by them, on the Surprize they were in at seeing the neighbouring Houses and Stores set on fire by the Troops.

H E it was who headed that small Party, which beat off seven large Boats sull of Men, sent from the Town to retake that Battery. And he effected this brave, though dangerous Undertaking, notwithstanding that the Cannon of the Town, within point-blank-shot, fired continually upon him and his Party, which consisted only of eleven or twelve Men; though in the Journal sisteen or sixteen are mentioned;

but

but he had left four Men in the Battery. C H A P. Vide Journal ibidem, May 3d. VI.

This Gentleman was affifting in every Duty of Fatigue, or Honour, during the whole Siege. And that he might be the more at liberty to animate the Men by his personal Appearance, and manual Affistance and Encouragement, wherever the Cause might require it, he refused to accept of any Military Honours or Preferment which was offered him; and only answered, That if the Undertaking was attended with Success, he did not doubt of being honourably considered.

THAT Mr. Vaughan therefore first set the Expedition on foot; nay, that he revived it, when absolutely rejected by the General Assembly: That he behaved with all the Gallantry and Bravery, as well as Zeal for the Service, whilst it was going on, that could be expected from a Person in a much higher Rank; are Facts, which stand in need of no Proof, at least, not with me, who have seen the original Letters written to him, and the Certificates

given

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CHAP. given him by the Governors, General, and others, concerned in this Expedition. Mr. Vaughan has too much Modesty to give them to the Publick; but many of his Friends, besides myself, have seen them. And as he does not doubt of a Reward equal to his Merits and Services on this Occasion, he chuses rather that Pleasure and Satisfaction, which arise from a fecret Confciousness of having done his Duty, than to feem to court publick Applause. And it was with the greatest Difficulty he was prevailed on, to fuffer thus much of the Truth to appear in his Favour.

> I HAVE already told the Reader, that I had prepared the best Journal I could pick up, of all the most material Transactions which paffed during this memorable Siege: But, having feen the Journal printed at Exeter, I found myself obliged to expunge what I had collected on that Subject; which might have been, on many Occasions, more circumstantial, and, in the main, pretty exact; but would have wanted the Advantage of being fubfcribed

fcribed by the General, and other Officers C H A P. prefent on the Occasion. This Accident VI. is the Cause of a kind of Chasm in this Narrative; which the Publick will, I dare say, rather bear with Pleasure, than be troubled with a Repetition of what appears so well justified.

I SHALL now proceed, in the last Place, to give some Account of New England, in Regard to its Power and Strength; which, probably, many People here have mistaken Notions of.

CHAP.

CHAP. VII.

A True State of New England, in regard to its Power and Riches, as well as Affection to the present happy Establishment in Church and State.

C H A P. O recount all the Advantages, Which the Possession of Cape Breton may bring (in process of time, and with due Encouragement) to the Crown of Great Britain, would require more Space than the Nature of this Narrative would admit of. But it appears The French from feveral Judicious Tracts lately pubbave encroached upon lished, that the French have for several our Trade. Years past not only enlarged their Trade, and outdone us in every Branch of it; but have also incroached upon Our's, either through Skill, Application, or Management. It is therefore high time that we feriously enquire into what are the real Causes Causes of the Decay of Trade on our C H A P. Side; and what has contributed so much VII. to the vast Increase of their's.

A LATE Pamphlet entitled, The Prefent State of the British and French Trade to Africa and America considered; And a Letter printed in the Tradesman's Journal; have compared the Condition of the two Nations in regard to Trade; and have set that Matter in a strong and important Light.

AFTER what has been faid there; it can never, furely, be a Matter of Indifference to the Nation in general, or the Legislature in particular, whether the French or We are to thrive or be undone. And I take it to be a Matter of no less Concern, to have our Eyes open at this Critical Juncture.

WE have it now in our Power not only to prevent the Abuse they have made of Priviledges formerly granted them: but even to restrain at least, if not entirely cut off some of the most valuable Branches of their Trade. It is but very lately

VII. The War with France a lucky Incident.

CHAP. lately that this Nation in general is convinced, that the French had any Trade worth mentioning: And, in this Respect, the War has been the luckiest Incident that could have befallen us, to undeceive the most quick fighted amongst us. Had not fo many of their Ships been taken with rich Cargoes; and fome of them laden with Manufactures which we never suspected them capable of; We should probably have continued our Course in a thick Cloud of Inattention and Security; 'till we had run upon the Rocks, without perceiving our Danger. We may now perhaps; it is pretty evident we ought to enquire into the Measures and Means whereby they have brought Traffick of all kinds from a very languishing, to a most flourishing Condition. It is no Reproach to learn, even from our Enemies, whatever may conduce to our Safety, or Aggrandizement. Nay, our Trade will be absolutely lost, and, with it, all our Power and Weight, if we do not speedily fet about the Work. The Possession of Cape Breton furnishes us with the most Natural; with the only Means of effectually depressing the French in their Commerce. And, if we add to this most for- C H A P. tunate Circumstance, our Endeavours and VII. Resolutions to encourage in all Shapes our own Colonies, their Product, our Manufactures, and Industry of every kind, to the utmost of our Power; it may not yet be too late, to recover what we had almost imperceptibly lost.

THE French, the more effectually to The French extend and carry on their Trade, erected erest a Couna Council of Commerce in the Year 1700, cil of Comconfifting of some of the Principal Officers of State; and twelve of the Principal Merchants, or Persons who have been a long time engaged in Business. Two of these were of Paris; the other Ten deputed by the Chief Trading Towns of France. How far fuch an Establishment may be expedient, or even practicable under our Form of Government, I will not take upon me to determine. this cannot be done, furely fomething else may, to fecure us against the Arts, Skill, Application, and Industry of our aspiring Neighbours. Let any One, who has the least Concern for the Welfare of his Country, but run over the above mentionСна P. ed Pamphlet; and I am much mistaken VII. if he is not fufficiently alarmed, at feeing how near the Brink of the Precipice we were arrived. In the Course of about thirty five Years the French have converted the the Island of Cape Breton from a Defart into a fruitful, comfortable Settle-Within the Bounds of the late French Governor's Commission were, befides the Island of Cape Breton, several

others in the Gulph of St. Laurence. On French Imthe Island of Cape Breton.

provements of the Island of Cape Breton, they had twelve Settlements, viz. Four on the South Side, and Eight on the East. They have built many Fish Rooms and Stages for the Use of the Fishery; and several Houses and Barns, &c. They laid out incredible Sums on these Improvements; and the Fortisications of Lewisburg have exceeded all Imagination in Expence, fince that Island has been in the Possession of the French. Thave been told, and from good Authority, that those two Articles, in the Course

The immense Sums it hath cost them.

of thirty five Years, cannot have cost them far short of three Millions Sterling. But this I do not take upon me to vouch; only would from hence draw this Inference, viz. that the French thought it well

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well worth their while to bestow im- C H A P. mense Sums upon the Improvement and Security of these Islands, merely on Account of their Trade. It must therefore be well worth our while to preserve so valuable an Acquisition, which has not cost us the 150th part of the Money; and has every thing done at it, which may facilitate its Preservation: An Acquisition, which at the same time, that it curbs and annoys their Trade, contributes fo vastly to the Encrease and Security of Our Own: An Acquisition which in the Opinion of a very good Judge, exceeds every thing that was ever gained to, or by, the Crown of England for many Generations.

THE Situation of Cape Breton in general, and of Lewisburg in particular, is fuch, as makes it the most commodious Place that could be found for the Security of Trade from the West Indies, and North America. The Distance from Distances of thence to Newfoundland is but one Day's Cope Breton from most of Sail. To the Streights of Bellisle, on the the English North of Newfoundland, about four Days Colonies, &c. Sail: From thence, to Hudson's Streights, about Six Days Sail. From Lewisburg 1575 1

C P. A P. to Canso, half a Day's Sail. To the back Side of Nova Scotia through the Gut of Canso to Cape Vert, two Days Sail. To Boston in New England, and to Annapolis Royal in Nova Scotia, four Days Sail. To Bermudas (near which Island, all the Trade from the West Indies returns to Europe) about feven Days Sail. And from Lewisburg to Quebec, the Capital of the French Settlements on the River St. Laurence, it is about seven Days Sail. And by reason of the Gulph Stream setting to the North-east, every Ship from the Sugar Islands, and all other Parts of the West Indies, are necessarily obliged to approach very near this Island, in their Return to Europe.

This Island is therefore a kind of Center-point to all the rest, as well English as French Settlements. And as it is a Place of Strength, and lies amidst the fishing Countries; as it may be a Mart or Staple for all Commodities passing between England and its Colonies in America; lastly as it lies most conveniently for protecting all our Trade, and annoying that of the Enemy; no Care or Ex-

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Preservation of it; nor any Equivalent VII.

IT feems to be a prevailing Notion among many of different Ranks in Great Britain, that the Province of New England is in a very flourishing Condition; and that it might by Encouragement, become fo powerful, as to excite fome Jealousies at least, if not Apprehensions of its affuming, one Day or other, an Independency very prejudicial to these Realms. But when the true State of that Case General State comes to be duly weighed and confidered, of New England it will be found that it is neither in their Inclination, nor in their Power to shake off their Subjection, and Obedience to the Crown of Great Britain. It is not agreeable to their Inclination, as Protestants. and Subjects more zealously affected to their National Church, as well as to the present Royal Family, than perhaps any others under His Majesty's most Gracious and Mild Government. It is not in their Power; for whatever Pretence there may be for a contrary Opinion, they are certainly not in a Condition to raise Rebellions,

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C H A P. lions, and support an Independency; as will fufficiently be demonstrated in the Sequel of this Fact. But if they actually were, who must they give themfelves to? They could not long fubfift, without the Protection of some Power more potent than themselves. That Power must be a neighbouring one, or he could not support and protect them: That Neighbour must be the French; for they have none other. And can it be suppofed that a People fo utterly detesting Popery, Slavery and Arbitrary Power, would fubject themselves to a Government, under which they can expect, and are fenfible, would find nothing but the Loss of their Religion, Liberty, and Property? It may perhaps be faid, that the French are more attentive to the general Prosperity of their Colonies, than the English are; and this may prove an Inducement. But whoever fays it, reproaches us most feverely for our Want of Attention, and Regard to fo material a Branch of our Wealth and Power. This Affertion ought to excite in us a fleady and firm Resolution to encourage and promote the Welfare of these American Colonies, to the utmost

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utmost of our Power; not only because C H A P. our Neighbours and Rivals do it, but because it is absolutely necessary for the Support of our Commerce, and to enable us once more to equal at least, if not to furpass those, who are diligent and expert in all the Arts of undermining and excelling us.

Bur really, and in Fact, the People of New England are far from being in a Condition to affect an Independency They have impoverished themselves to a great Degree, in the Support of their Liberties and Possessions against the common Enemy; and have chearfully engaged in every Scheme or Expedition for enlarging the Power and Dominion of the Crown of Great Britain; but have never once made the least Attempt towards throwing off their Subjection to it. To fet this Matter in a clearer Light, we shall take it a good deal higher than the prefent times, and shew that the People of New England have been almost constantly exposed to great Difficulties, and put to continual large Expences in the Defence of their Country, and in the Af-

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CHAP. sistance they have given the Crown of VII. Great Britain, whenever the Circumstances of the Times required their Concurrence.

First Settle- THE first Settlement that took Place ment in New in New England was begun at New PlyEngland. mouth in 1620. And (as it is easy to

mouth in 1620. And (as it is easy to imagine) they underwent great Hardships and Difficulties, before they could bring their Affairs into a tolerable Condition. They sustained many Wars with the Savages, and lost a great Number of their People, in endeavouring to fix themfelves in a convenient and comfortable manner. But in 1675. an Indian King of great Credit amongst the Savages; and no less famed for his Cruelty and Subtlety, than for his Courage and Conduct. drew all the Neighbouring Nations into an Alliance with him; built a strong Fortress; and determined a War against the English, who had now been about fifty Years in Possession of that Part of

fifty Years in Possession of that Part of the first Set- the Country. This naturally gave the Alers there and larm to the New Settlers, who thereupon the Indians. mustered all their Strength, and selecting

a Body of their bravest Men, resolved to

prevent this powerful Enemy. They CHAP. VII. marched accordingly through deep Snows, exceffive Cold, and numberless Difficulties to the Indian's Fortress; attacked him there with great Bravery, and had the good Fortune to destroy the King himfelf, and many of his People, though Numbers of them escaped. This could not be done, without a very confiderable loss on the Side of the Assailants; but they comforted themselves with the pleafing Prospect of Liberty and Ease for the future. They were however deceived: For fuch as had escaped, soon spread themselves through the different Tribes of the Savages bordering upon their Settlements, and with the Affistance of the Jesuits, privately entered into a general Confederacy to wage War against the English. This War in 1676. broke out at an Second War, appointed time, in different Places: And &c. they carried Murder and Destruction along with them wherever they went. Multitudes of the English, as well as their Plantations, Settlements, and Stocks of Cattle were, on this Occasion, utterly destroyed. None escaped but such as had the good Fortune to be near the Sea,

C H A P. and by that means, fled to New York,
VII. New Jersey, Pensilvania, Maryland, Virginia, Carolina, and the Sugar Islands:
In which different Places there are thousands of the Posterity of these ruined Families, at this Day.

FROM that time, to the present, the hardy brave Remains of this People have been struggling under Difficulties; oppofing the French in Canada, and Nova Scotia; fustaining Wars with the Savages, who are now entirely in the French Interests; and endeavouring to put their Country into the same good Posture and Condition it was in near feventy Years ago. They had no fooner begun to think themselves in quiet Possession of their Settlements; but a fresh Irruption of French or Savages, or both together, poured in upon them, and in a few Days destroyed the Fruits of several Years Labour.

New England maintains many
Garrisons for Devastation; and thereby put to great and the Defence of incessant Expence in guarding a Frontier its Frontiers.

of near two hundred Miles Extent, be- CHAP. fides being obliged to defend their Coasts in time of War. They are under a Neceffity therefore of keeping many Garrifons of Soldiers all along their Frontiers: And the fingle Province of the Massachuset's Bay now actually maintains seven of these Capital Garrisons. They are also obliged to keep Parties or fmall Armies on Foot, as Scouts in time of War, or when Danger is apprehended. This Province is also at a large Expence in supporting a Number of Men, to guard and protect those employed in the Mast-Trade for the Service of the Crown. They are likewise forced to maintain a Number of armed Vessels to defend their Coasts and protect the Intercourse (by Sea) between them and their Neighbours.

BESIDES all these Difficulties at home, they have been engaged in many very expensive and hazardous Expeditions, for the Honour and Advantage of the Crown of Great Britain.

THE Expedition to Canada, in 1690, The Neverther though a fruitless one, proved so expen-of issuing Paper Bills. U2

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five to the People of New England, that they were then obliged to iffue Paper Bills, in lieu of Money, on the Faith of the Government for Payment of the same. This first introduced that fatal Practice; and by perfifting in that Method upon any great Emergency ever fince, they are in a fair Way of being utterly ruined, unless timely supported by the Government of England.

The Several Expeditions in which the People of josned.

THESE People carried on two Expeditions at their own Expence, against the French in Nova Scotia, before it was con-New England quered by General Nicholson: In one of which they conquered the Country. In the Reign of Queen Anne, they again joined her Armaments against Canada; but as the Fleet did not leave England till the 8th of May, nor arrive in the River of St. Laurence till the 23d of August; through these and other Pieces of Mismanagement, eight of the Ships were lost in the Gulph of St. Laurence, and the whole Expedition failed.

> THE People of New England also joined General Nicholfon in the Reduction of Nova Scotia. And depending upon

that

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that Country's being guarded and defend- CHAP. ed by the Queen's Troops, they were in hopes that their Colony would be eased of the Burden of furnishing Garrisons for the Defence of New England, on that Side, at least. But, instead of that, the only Garrison in Nova Scotia, is at Annapolis Royal; and that scarce able to defend itfelf, much less in any Condition to lend Affistance to its Neighbours.

By these Means therefore, and for want of an Opportunity of redeeming their Credit, fo often, and fo deeply engaged by the frequent iffuing of this Paper Money, they became largely indebted to the Publick. Yet, notwithstanding all that has been said, when a Scheme was fet on foot for the Reduction of Cape Breton, they, with their usual Chearfulness and Alacrity for promoting the Honour and Interests of the Crown, immediately entered into the Scheme; and, in order to put it in Practice, had Recourse to their old Method of iffuing an additional Number of Bills, without which the Project had been altogether impracticable. The Expence, indeed, of this I 50

VII.

CHAP, this Expedition was far beyond what this and the adjoining Provinces were able to bear, without being utterly ruined, even in case of Success. But they confidently relied on His Majesty and the English Nation for a Reimbursement; and they will, no doubt, be amply indemnified for all their Expences, Fatigues, and Dangers. These Bills are now, as I am told, so much depretiated in Value, that they bear a Discount or Loss of 200 per Cent. and, unless the Government of England finds fome Expedient for redeeming, or calling them in, these Provinces must be entirely ruined for their Zeal; and all Commerce between them and Great Britain will cease of course.

The great Discount of the Paper Money.

> THEY formerly fent all their Gold and Silver to England for fuch Goods as they wanted from thence; and made use of the above-mentioned Paper-Credit, for all Bufiness and Transactions amongst themfelves. But now, 1that the Currency is quite exhausted, and there is no real Money left amongst them, they cannot any longer pay for fuch Goods as they want; but, instead of taking them from England,

England, must be driven to the Necessity CHAP. of making themselves Cloaths of Skins, VII. and fuch Things as their Country affords; which must occasion a great Decrease in The Necessity of indemnifythe Demand and Confumption of our ing this Peo-Woollen and other Manufactures, How ple for their far this Nation will find its Account in this Expences. Alteration of Affairs, let others determine: But if, no other Confideration were of Weight fufficient to plead for them, furely that of their having on all Occasions affifted us with their Persons and Money; their having on this particular Occasion struck so noble a Stroke for the Advantage of these Realms; and their having involved themfelves in fo many and great Difficulties for our fakes, are sufficient Inducements for protecting, rewarding and faving fo generous, so faithful, and so brave a People.

It is easy to foresee, that if the Inhabitants have not Money to purchase the Goods they want, in a cold Climate, the Merchant will not let them have his Goods for nothing, or for Paper, which is worth nothing. How are they then to be cloathed? Why, they will naturally run into the Manusacturing of Linnen,

CHAP. and what Wool they have; and so cover VII. themselves with these, with Leather and Furs, instead of taking off our Woollen Goods.

If the English Nation should judge it proper (and it is not doubted but it will) to pay off the Expence of this Expedition in Money, this will introduce a Currency amongst them, which will make the calling in and burning of their Bills, or a great Number of them, practicable. Then, for the future, let it be enacted, or otherwise provided, that all the English Colonies or Settlements in North America do bear a proportionable Expence of all Expeditions in Favour of the Crown; and that the whole Burden be not left, as it has been, upon that of New England, to its utter Ruin and Destruction.

A Method proposed for calling in their Paper Money.

I AM told, that in Mr. Ashley's Treatise on Trade, there is an infallible Method for restoring the Currency of Money into New England; but I have not that Book by me; and, if I had, it would be too troublesome to the Reader to insert it here. I refer him therefore to it; and shall only add, that if some Expedient be

not thought of, and speedily put in Exe- C H A P. cution, this Province cannot long subsist; VII. and that the Disadvantage to Trade in general, as well as the Discouragement to all Undertakings of this Nature in particular, will be so great, that it is no great. Presumption to affert the Loss in both Cases to be absolutely irretrievable.

THE Case therefore is widely different from the Notion which has in some Places prevailed: And New England is not, and I am sorry it is not, the powerful, slourishing Colony it has been represented to be; but on the contrary, the Country is very poor, largely in debt, has no Currency or real Value in it, and, unless speedily relieved from hence, has no future Prospect, but that of utter and irrecoverable Ruin.

It is not disposed to throw off its Dependency on the Crown of England; but may, with Justice, vie with England itself for Demonstrations of Loyalty, Zeal, and Affection to His present Majesty, the Protestant Cause, and English Liberty.

This Narrative (which is already much longer than I intended it should be) would have

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Снар. have ended here, if a Letter from a Gentleman in New England to his Friend in VII. London, had not been just now put into my Hands. It contains fome Arguments, and a Method of Reasoning, which I confess I dare not make myself a Judge of; but, at the Request of some Friends, have inferted fuch Parts of it, as in general relate to my Subject.

Letter from in New England to his Friend in London.

"IT were to be wished, that a Civil a Gentleman & Government was established at Cape Bre-" ton, and the Island irrevocably annexed " to the Crown of Great Britain, as well " as Canso well fortified. They would " thus become not only a Nursery for "twenty Thousand Seamen a Year; but " would command all the Fishery of ". North America, and confequently the "Treasure of France and Spain; by which Means the King of Great Britain " would foon become the Greatest Prince e in Europe, and His People have the " most extensive and enriching Trade.

> "IT is now, I think, in the Power ee of the King and Parliament to make a * Chain of Towns from Lewisburg to ⁹⁹ Canso; from thence to Annapolis Royal;

" and so on, to Casco: which would be CHAP. " perfected in less than a Century. Oh! VII. " that they could but comprehend without feeing, what we on the Spot fee with " our Eyes, viz. the vast Encrease of Fifty " poor Families on their Arrival in New England; which are now multiplied into an incredible Number of Inhabitants, " and dispersed into a proportionate Number of Regular Towns: And all this " in about an Hundred and Twenty "Years. From New York to South Caro-" lina there is still a greater Encrease of " People, Trade, and Towns; to the " amazing Enlargement of the British Dominions.

"I HEARTILY wish a due Considera"tion may be had of the Case of those
"worthy Men, both Officers and Soldiers,
"who left their Families, Farms, Ease,
"Plenty, and Peace at Home, to expose
"themselves to all their Contraries, in the
"Service of their King and Country.
"Should they be detained there as a Gar"rison of Common Soldiers, and have
"Officers put over them, I fear they
"may, in their Grief, Shame, and Rage,
"become

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CHAP. "become as desperate as they were in VII. "their Toils, Courage and Assaults of the Enemy, who said, They were Devils in

" Human Shape.

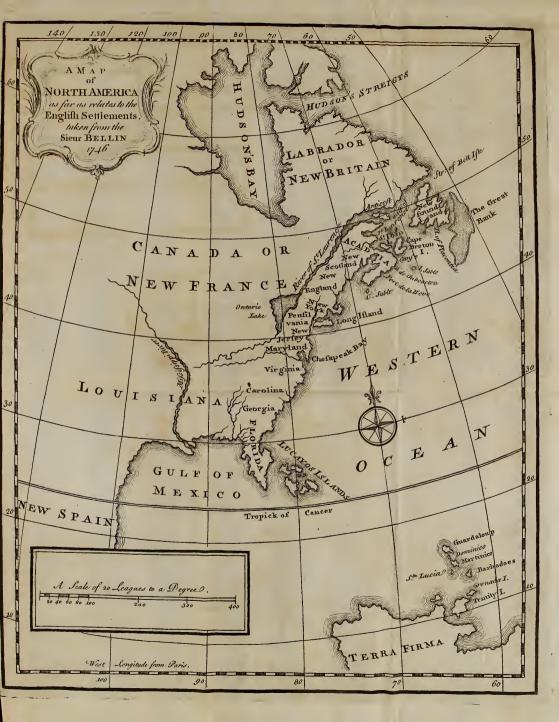
"I AM glad to see the Just Sense the "Ministry and Kingdom seem to have of the Reduction of Cape Breton to the Dominion of England. And we read, with Pleasure, the Intimation which the Lord Mayor and City of London make in their Address to His Majesty, of their Hope, that it may never be given back to the French. "The Mines of Peru are no Price for it.

Conclusion.

This Letter, and the foregoing Narrative, sufficiently evince the general Notion of the Importance and Advantages of Cape Breton to the English Nation: And, it is to be hoped, that no Power, no Arts of French Politicians, nor any plausible Proposal of Equivalents, will ever be able to wrest it out of the Hands of a People, who have so gloriously recovered the rightful Possession







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